

ASHBROOK SPECIAL SERVICE

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~~REPRODUCED BY PERMISSION OF THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION~~

AGAIN WE REFER TO THE FRAUDULENT
90¢ 1860 ARMITAGE COVER

In the July 1, 1955 issue of this Service, I referred to this manipulated cover which was submitted to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation last November and a certificate issued stating that in their opinion, the 90¢ stamp was genuinely used with the 30¢ and 12¢ on this cover. I again referred to this cover in last month's issue and illustrated it by photo print #235. As previously stated, this cover originally had the 30¢ and 12¢ stamps (42¢) and in my opinion, some faker had removed the 12¢ and placed it in the lower left corner and in its place he added the 90¢ 1860 and placed on it a red grid cancel in imitation of the strikes on the 30¢ and 12¢.

This was a double 2 x 21¢ rate by "Am. Pkt" PAID ONLY TO ENGLAND. I previously stated the black manuscript postage due marking, (British applied) was 2 shillings 4 pence, (2/4). Instead it seems more probable the due was 2/2 for a double rate, and 1/1 for a single rate.

In the Brown sale by Harmer Rooke in 1939, Lot #909 was a cover from Boston via New York and by American Packet to England, thence to Calcutta, East Indies, with the single rate of 21¢, the rate being "PAID ONLY TO ENGLAND," that is, paid only to the British frontier and not beyond. (5¢ U. S. Internal plus 16¢ Atlantic crossing - Sea).

Photograph No. 236, illustrates this Ex-Brown cover, which was purchased by the late Carl S. Brandebury. In his sale by Percy Doane, held in December 1943, this cover was again sold as Lot 121. Since then I have no record. I do not have the date of use of this cover but it shows a 5¢ brown, Type II, which was first issued in May(?) of 1860, hence the use was within a few months of the faked Armitage cover, which was January of 1861. The Brown cover shows a single rate of 21¢ routed "Via Marseilles" with postage due from England to destination of one shilling - one pence, or 1/1, as above. The Armitage cover was in the same class but a double rate of 2 x 21¢ or 42¢. The certificate issued by the Foundation shows that their opinion was not based on a knowledge of the subject but rather on pure guess-work.

ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF PURE GUESS-WORK

In the November issue (1955) of this Service on pages 441, etc., I described and illustrated a most unusual and rare 5¢ 1847 cover as per Photograph #230. Here is a valuable cover, which, in my opinion, is absolutely genuine, as good as gold. The "Expert Committee" issued a certificate to the effect that the 5¢ stamp was not used on this cover. I made very fine enlarged photographs of the stamp by ultra-violet and

there was absolutely no evidence that a former cancelation had been removed. No faker would be so foolish to paint a postmark on an unused 5¢ 1847.

ANOTHER SERIOUS ERROR

In the September issue (1955) of this Service, page 425, I devoted quite a bit of space to the Famous Waterhouse 3¢ 1861 PINK unique unused imprint block of 12. This block was submitted to the P. F. "Expert Committee" and they issued a certificate stating it was not PINK. Imagine!!! As a result it was sent back to England, the sale was canceled. Could one blame Sir Nicholas Waterhouse if he was utterly disgusted? When an expert committee resorts to pure guess-work they are sure to be wrong more times than right. A collector owning a very valuable and genuine cover runs a great risk if he submits it to this Expert Committee, because their guess might be that it is a fake. However, one might profit if he has a questionable or a fake cover, by submitting it to this Committee, because the chances are they would declare it to be genuine in all respects.

"PAID-ONLY TO ENGLAND"

Photograph No. 237, illustrates a cover to Spain in 1869 with the New York marking, "PAID-ONLY TO ENGLAND." As stated above such payments were only to the British frontier. This cover to Spain with six copies of the 2¢ 1869 (12¢) originated at Charleston, S. C. on "Sept. 20, 1869." The U. S. did not have a postal treaty with Spain at that period, but Britain did have such a treaty, hence mail could be sent from the U. S. to England and forwarded, thence as an unpaid letter originating in Britain. The U. S. rate for such a letter was 10¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, thus this letter had an overpay of 2¢ as the quoted rate was "Open Mail-Via England - 10¢." The U. S. rate to England at that time was 12¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., but to the frontier only, it was 10¢. This cover shows the Spanish postage due of "4R" or 4 Reales. In my opinion, a strip of six of the 2¢ 1869 on a foreign rate cover is most unusual, (Krug collection).

For other covers with the marking "PAID-ONLY TO ENGLAND" see photographs #7 and #168, the latter with a 10¢ 1869, the correct rate.

A VERY RARE COVER

Photograph No. 238, illustrates an extremely rare and interesting cover, a blue folded letter showing a pair of 3¢ 1851 Orange Brown (Pl. 1E) plus a 1¢ 1851. Postage paid 7¢. I wonder how many collections can show this very unusual 7¢ rate? And why 7¢? In addition, this cover shows a red oval strike of the Mississippi River steamboat, the "STEAMER - GLENDY BURKE." The Hon. Glendy Burke was a very prominent citizen of New Orleans in the fabulous days of that city a century ago.

This letter is a prepaid WAY, that is, a double rate of 2 x 3¢ plus the WAY fee of 1¢. The letter, in my opinion, was picked up at some plantation landing by the non-mail contract steamboat, the "Glendy Burke," and

was carried to New Orleans and postmarked NOV 26, the year 1851. The One Cent stamp is pale blue from Plate One Early, Prepaid Way covers with 3¢ plus 1¢ are very scarce and there is a reason for this as the Way Fee of 1¢ on mail brought into New Orleans was discontinued as of, or about, January 1st, 1853. Inasmuch as the 1¢ and 3¢ stamps were issued July 1, 1851, there was only a period of 18 months during which such prepaid Way Fee letters were used. We also find 3¢ 1851 Packet covers handstamped "WAY 1," and unpaid letters, (single) rated as "WAY 6." (postage, unpaid 5¢ plus 1¢ Way) (6¢ DUE).

Regarding the discontinuance of the One Cent Way Fee at New Orleans, I quote in part as follows from a letter dated Washington, D. C. Dec. 23, 1852, addressed to Postmaster M. Musson, New Orleans, and signed by S. D. Jacobs, First Assistant P.M.C., quote:

"The Postmaster General fully coincides with me in the opinion that the charge of one cent additional on letters brought by steamboats on the Mississippi River to New Orleans, is not authorized by a proper construction of the law and regulations of the Department, and the practice should be discontinued; and where the one cent is demanded by steamboats or their agents for the delivery into your office of such letters, it should be paid out of the regular rates, and not added to the legal postage of the letter received." (unquote)

The above letter was published in the New Orleans "Daily Picayune" on January 5, 1853, and I am indebted to Mr. Leonard V. Huber for copy of same.

If you are interested in Packet covers, by all means obtain a copy of the new book just published, entitled, "TALES OF THE MISSISSIPPI," the authors, my valued friend Leonard V. Huber, and Ray Samuel and Warren C. Ogden, all of New Orleans. Published by Hastings House, New York 22, N.Y.

THE PROVIDENCE 5¢ P. M. PROVISIONAL

In last month's issue of this Service I devoted quite a bit of space to covers with this stamp in the Caspary sale and mentioned that covers are known with the 5¢ stamp tied by a Providence postmark, a pen stroke, a PAID or a numeral "5."

Photograph No. 239, illustrates a cover that was submitted to me by a dealer a few months ago for my opinion. The stamp was faintly tied by a faded red PAID. I refused at the time to give a definite opinion, but stated I believed it possible that the stamp may have been used as we see it but that definite proof was lacking. In addition, it lacked the pen stroke which was generally used to cancel the stamps. The buyer of the cover removed the stamp and beneath it he found a hand-stamped PAID, indicating rather conclusively that this cover was originally a stampless cover with the postage paid by cash or charge, to which some faker had added the Providence stamp. One should be very careful in buying an item such as this.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO ENGLAND IN 1853

As of July 1, 1851, the rate from California and Oregon to Great Britain was fixed at, prepaid or unpaid, 29¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce. This was arrived at as follows: U. S. Internal 10¢, British Internal 3¢, Atlantic Sea 16¢ - total 29¢. The rate from the Eastern states remained as per the original treaty at 24¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. All such mail from the West Coast, was forwarded from San Francisco by the Ocean Mail to Panama, thence across the Isthmus to Chagres and by steamer to New York City, and thence from either New York or Boston to Britain. All mail deposited in post offices in California or Oregon in the early days, traveled this mail route, and no other. Some of this "Ocean Mail" was sent thru New Orleans. There never was a U. S. mail route "around the Horn" and any reference to "clipper ship cancels" is erroneous.

A VERY RARE 12¢ 1851 BISECT COVER

Photograph #210, illustrates a most interesting piece of Philatelic Americana. Here we have a cover showing two and a half 12¢ 1851 in what was a H.S. of three from San Francisco in August 1853 to pay the above 29¢ rate to Liverpool, thus a 1¢ overpay. This is a cover that will be offered in the Second Caspary Sale, by H. R. Harmer, Inc. of New York City on Tuesday, Jan. 17, 1956.

The 29¢ "Pacific Coast" rate was in effect from July 1, 1851 to July 1, 1863 when it was reduced to 24¢. This because of the reduction in the U. S. domestic rate to and from the East from 10¢ to 3¢.

This letter was forwarded from San Francisco on Tuesday, August 16, 1853 by the "Pacific Mail S. S. Company" steamer, the "Winfield Scott." Why the 12¢ Bisect? Late in July or early in the month of August, 1853, the San Francisco Post Office ran out of a supply of the 3¢ 1851 adhesive stamps and to accommodate the public, diagonal halves of the 12¢ 1851 were sold for use on mail to the Eastern states, the prepaid rate being 6¢. It is believed that the shortage lasted for about a month and a half or more. At that period the U. S. mail steamers departed from San Francisco for Panama on the 1st and 16th of each month, unless those dates fell on Sunday. The great majority of 12¢ 1851 bisect covers in collections show uses from San Francisco on the following sailing dates in 1853 - August 1st and 16th, September 1st and 16th. At that period in our postal history there was no law or regulation forbidding the use of halves or even quarters of adhesive postage stamps. No doubt a large number of letters were forwarded from San Francisco at that time of a shortage of the 3¢ 1851 with halves of the 12¢ stamp and it is reasonable to suppose that the receipt at many Eastern post offices caused postmasters to wonder at the use of mutilated stamps. Some recognized the use, others refused, and rated the letter as unpaid with 10¢ due. Perhaps a number wrote Washington for instructions, should they or should they not permit a letter to be delivered with a half of a stamp? It seems possible that such inquiries caused the Postmaster General to take action and in the following November he issued an order forbidding recognition of such mutilated adhesives or uncanceled stamps cut from the

recently issued stamped envelopes. The following is a quote from an order dated November 10th, 1853: "If the stamp be cut out of, or separated from the envelope on which it was made, the legal value of both is destroyed; neither does the law authorize the use of parts of postage stamps in payment of postage." (unquote)

Resuming the analysis of the above cover, this letter to Liverpool reached New York on Monday, Sept. 12, 1853. It was there properly foreign rated and handstamped in red "19," the credit to the British P.O.D., same being the sea of 16¢ plus the British internal of 3¢. It was then sent up to Boston to go by a Cunard Mail Ship ("Br. Pkt") on Wednesday, Sept. 14, 1853, for Liverpool, Via Halifax. It reached the latter port as per the handstamp dated "25 SP 53" with the wording, "PAID IN AMERICA."

THE "S. S. WINFIELD SCOTT"

A few words regarding the ship which carried this piece of mail to Panama City in August of 1853. This was the first trip of this ship after she became the property of The Pacific Mail Steamship Company. She had been operated between San Francisco and Panama for about a year by an independent line, first seemingly called the "Telegraph Line," (Alta Apr. 30, 1852), and later called the "New York & San Francisco Line" (Alta, June 16, 1852 and later). It was sometimes referred to as "Eabcock's Independent Line," (Alta Mar. 6, 1853). The line also operated the "S. S. Cortes" on the Pacific and the "S. S. United States" on the Atlantic. The Company ceased business in the summer of 1853, the "S. S. Winfield Scott" passing into the fleet of the Pacific Mail S. S. Co., and the S. S. Cortes being acquired by Commodore Vanderbilt's Nicaragua Line. When south-bound from San Francisco to Panama the ship stranded in a dense fog on Anacapa Island on December 2, 1853 and though passengers, mail and treasure were safely landed, the ship filled and sank and was a total loss. I do not have a record of any other cover from California to Britain with the 29¢ rate paid in this manner, hence it is possible that this cover may be unique. Again may I repeat, it is the story behind the cover that adds so much additional interest.

THE WILDERNESS ROAD - INTO KENTUCKY

In the extreme southwestern corner of Kentucky, the state is joined by Virginia and Tennessee, and here in the mountains is the famed Cumberland Gap thru which ran the old Wilderness Road - the bloody path traversed by the earliest settlers from Virginia and North Carolina into the fabulous blue grass country of "Kaintuckee." Nearby the Gap and nestled in a beautiful valley is Harrogate, Tenn., the home of the Lincoln Memorial University, whose President is Robert Lee Kincaid. The University publishes a quarterly, the "Lincoln Herald," a magazine devoted to historical research in the field of Lincolniana and the Civil War, and to the promotion of Lincoln Ideals in American education. The subscription price is \$3.00 per year. If you are not familiar with this publication, send for a copy. Dr. Kincaid recently published a

book, "The Wilderness Road," which is an absorbing description of the road to a new civilization. Send for a copy, and I am sure you will have no regrets. As the early settlements in Virginia spread to the west, the Wilderness Road came into existence, swinging southwest from Winchester, Va., it ran down the valley through settlements which became Harrisonburg, Staunton, Lexington, Christianburg, Wytheville, and Abingdon to Bristol, then in time to such places as we know today as Gate City and Jonesville to Cumberland Gap and into Kentucky thru Middlesboro, Pineville, Barbourville, London and on into the beautiful blue grass country. Kentucky, a county of Virginia was admitted as a state of the Union as of June 1, 1792. The first postal route ran from Danville through Cumberland Gap to Bean's Station in Tennessee and thence northeast over the Wilderness Road into Virginia. The service began about August 20, 1792 when post riders were employed for regular trips and Thomas Barbee was appointed the first postmaster in the new state, at Danville.

As early as the late seventeen seventies, settlers began to pour into the new country from Northern Virginia, Maryland and Eastern Pennsylvania to Old Brown Stone Fort, located on the Monongahela River in the Southwestern corner of Pennsylvania (now Brownsville). Here, log rafts were constructed, possessions loaded aboard and the trip was made down stream to Fort Pitt, now the site of Pittsburgh. Thence down the Ohio River to Old Limestone, later renamed Maysville, in Kentucky, and overland into the Blue Grass Region. In the high hills, a few miles back of Limestone the settlement of Washington came into existence and here in the summer of 1794 a post office was established along with others at the same period at Lexington, Frankfort, Bairdstown and Louisville. It was at about this time that the post route over the old Wilderness Road was discontinued and replaced by one down the Ohio River to better serve the Northern Kentucky settlements.

THE FIRST "P. L. & R."

The Federal Government established a general postal service in 1789 and I believe the first "P. L. & R." was issued to postmasters sometime in 1794. This book is extremely rare and I regret that I do not own a copy. My good friend, Morris Fortgang, recently loaned to me his copy and from it I made some notes. It is entitled, "Third Congress of the United States, at the first session, begun and held at the City of Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania on Monday the second of December, one thousand seven hundred and ninety three. An Act to establish the Post Office and Post-Roads within the United States." (unquote) - 162 years ago last month. The "Regulations" have the following heading, quote: "Regulations - to be observed by the Deputy Postmasters in the United States." (unquote)

The mail route from Richmond, Virginia to Knoxville in Tennessee and Danville in Kentucky was listed as follows: to Columbia, Charlottesville, Staunton, thence by the Wilderness Road to Lexington, Fincastle, Montgomery C.H., to Abington, thence into the "S. W. Territory" to Jonesborough, to Greeneville to Jefferson C.H. and Knoxville. Into Kentucky from Abington the route was, to Hawkins Courthouse (Free Stone Gap), to

Cumberland Mountain, to Cumberland River, to the Crab Orchard, to Danville. In reference to the above a notation reads, quote: "A mail is now passing weekly from Pittsburg to Wheeling, by land, then by the Ohio to Limestone in Kentucky - and thence by land to Fort Washington, in the Northwestern Territory, crossing the river Ohio over against Fort Washington. (Note by S.B.A. - Cincinnati now occupies the site of Fort Washington, which was the first U. S. Military Post established beyond the Appalachian Mountains). The mail from Abington through the wilderness to Danville in Kentucky, is therefore now to be dropped. But as the river Ohio may be impassable in the winter, & it may then be necessary to resume the route THRO' the Wilderness it is here subjoined." (unquote)

As the village of Cincinnati grew up around Fort Washington, it became necessary to remove the garrison across the Ohio River to the village of Newport, Ky. and the new reservation was called the "Newport Barracks." During the Mexican War this was a most important military center as recruits were sent there from all over the central west, trained and equipped, and shipped south to New Orleans by steamboats. In the late eighties, the Government moved the garrison to the highlands back of Newport, overlooking the Ohio River, and the new reservation was named Fort Thomas in honor of Gen'l George H. Thomas, the Federal hero of Chicanagua.

THE 10¢ 1857 - TYPE V

Way back in 1921 an article was published in the American Philatelist entitled, "NOTES ON THE TEN CENT 1855-1857 - United States Adhesives, by Carroll Chase and Stanley B. Ashbrook." Looking over this old article, I find that at that time the earliest use known to us of the Type V stamp was a single off cover, postmarked "New York Jun 1, 1859."

In the October 1924 issue of the "A.P." appeared an article by Chase and Ashbrook listing the earliest known dates of use of the stamps of the 1851-1857 U. S. adhesives. I note the 10¢ 1857 Type V shows "MAY 27, 1857." That early date has stood as the "earliest known" in all the succeeding years to date. Imagine my surprise and appreciation when I was recently shown a cover with a single 10¢ 1857 Type V plainly postmarked and tied by "San Francisco May 9, 1859." It required about 24 days by the Ocean Mail for the passage between New York and San Francisco at that time, so a shipment of the new Type V stamps was surely forwarded from New York prior to April 15th, 1859. The New York sailing dates for the California mails were the 5th and 20th of each month (unless these dates fell on Sunday), so a shipment must have been forwarded from New York as early as April 5, 1859. It seems odd therefore that no cover is known used in April of that year.

THE ONE CENT 1857 - TYPE V

Earliest known use. The S. U. S. lists "Nov - 1857," month and year, but no day. The reason is, that I have a record of two covers which were undoubtedly mailed in November of 1857, but neither one show

evidence of the day it was mailed. One of these is a printed circular with printed date inside of Nov. 4, 1857. A blue grid ties the stamp. In the Neinken collection is a folded circular of 1857, with New York postmark of "NOV 21" tying a 1¢ 1857 from Plate 8 (8L8). Mr. Morris Fortgang recently submitted to me a cover with a 1¢ 1857 Type V tied by a New York postmark of "NOV 17." (19L8). Thus this is the earliest known use with a day date of a Type V stamp (Plates 5 to 10 inclusive).

THE SECOND CASPARY SALE

On January 16, 17 and 18, 1956, will be held the second sale of a part of the fabulous collection formed by the late Alfred H. Caspary, the sale to include the U. S. Issues of 1847 and of 1851, 1857 and 1860. The whole philatelic world will be watching this sale and there seems to be no doubt that some record prices will be recorded. The catalogue has been out for a month and it speaks for itself. The firm of H. R. Harmer are to be heartily congratulated on such a fine piece of work. The illustrations are all that could be desired and I note that great care was exercised in a sincere and honest attempt to give an accurate description of each item offered for sale. This catalogue, as well as that of the November sale are handbooks of great value to the philatelic student as well as to the collector and are truly worth their weight in gold. Going thru these handbooks is almost as much of a treat and a philatelic education as a visit to the home of "A.H." and going thru his fabulous collection with him.

THE YEAR 1955

The year 1955 saw the passing of two prominent persons of the philatelic world who figured in the most sensational of all American philatelic mystery stories. On January 7th, 1955, Alfred H. Caspary passed away and on July 15th, 1955, John Klemann departed for a non-philatelic world. It was just 36 years ago last month, that is, December 1919, that the fantastic transaction in the "Grinnell Hawaiian Missionary stamps" took place in Los Angeles, Calif. George H. Grinnell (deceased) of Los Angeles was the seller and John Klemann of Nassau St., New York City was the buyer. The financial backer of Klemann to the extent of \$50,000.00 was the New York Stock Exchange member, Alfred H. Caspary.

There had long been a tradition in philatelic circles down East that there was in existence a very valuable lot of Hawaiian Missionary stamps, and that someday the "find" would become known. So I suppose Klemann was not surprised when one day in late November of 1919, he received a telegram from Bertram Poole that a Los Angeles resident had the "find" and advised him to come out immediately and he would put him in touch with the lucky owner. Caspary provided Klemann with a draft for \$50,000.00 and he left immediately for Los Angeles. There on or about Dec. 1st, 1919, he was introduced to one George H. Grinnell and after a "careful examination," Klemann paid Grinnell \$65,000.00 for 43 copies of the rare stamps. Klemann was at that time the most prominent of New York dealers and was recognized as an authority on the stamps of Hawaii. During the negotiations for the sale Grinnell assured Klemann

that there were only 43 stamps and no more in the "find." Returning to New York Klemann sold Caspary 16 of the rare stamps for \$75,000.00. This was on Saturday, Dec. 13, 1919. And now the tragic part of this drama unfolds. The next day, Sunday, Caspary telephoned Klemann and informed him that after a very careful comparison with genuine copies of the "Missionaries" in his collection he was convinced that all of the "Grinnell stamps" were clever counterfeits, and that he would return all of them the next morning.

The Secret Service seized the "stamps," probably at Klemann's request, and the latter filed suit against Grinnell. The case came to trial in the Superior Court of Los Angeles before the Hon. John P. Wood, on May 31, 1922 and continued until June 29, consuming 14 court days. Judge Wood rendered a decision in favor of Klemann and pronounced the stamps as counterfeits, and as "worthless bits of paper," and granted Klemann a judgment of \$64,500.00 plus interest, his costs and disbursements. Upon settlement Grinnell was to have returned to him his 43 "worthless bits of paper." Late in 1922 a settlement was reached between Grinnell and Klemann, the former making a refund of all the money he was able to raise. Grinnell spent the rest of his life trying to prove that he had been done a great injustice and I have been reliably informed that to the day of his death he maintained that his stamps were genuine. When Grinnell sold his stamps to Klemann he assured him there were only 43 stamps in the "find," later it developed that he had held out 28 copies and that in reality he had 71 copies. I have heard it stated that the number was even greater, that he actually had about 90 copies. If a man's word cannot be depended upon how could his honesty be assured?

It has been stated that the Grinnell stamps are extremely clever forgeries, both as to paper, ink and design. If this is true, the question arises who made them? Where did they obtain genuine originals to copy? By what process were they made? As far as I am aware, satisfactory answers to these questions have never been furnished. A number of our leading authorities of past years scoffed at the very suggestion that the stamps could possibly be genuine. Others have declared that in their opinion the stamps are genuine. Personally, I have no knowledge of the Missionary stamps; they are entirely out of my field of research work and I would not know a genuine copy if I saw one. However, I do have some knowledge of the early postal markings of Honolulu and for years I have accumulated quite a photographic record of covers with genuine postal markings used from Honolulu from November of 1851 down thru the years to the eighteen eighties. I know of no other student with a comparable record. A number of the Grinnell stamps have a reddish pink Honolulu postmark which I am positive is a counterfeit, in fact, I do not have a record of this fake postmark on any cover that I am positive is genuine. Therefore, in my opinion, there is no question but what the Grinnells are counterfeits. Surely no one in his sane mind would place a fake postmark on a genuine unused stamp with a high catalogue value. I note the catalogue priced the missionary stamps in 1917 at \$2,000.00 and up, in unused condition. I wonder if we will ever know the answers? Who made the Grinnells? Did George Grinnell make them? And what process did he use? Was it photo-engraving? Some experts in printing say "yes," others say "no." Whoever it was who

made these amazing forgeries must have been an expert in his line, so we wonder why he failed to make and use an exact imitation of the Honolulu postmark that was in use at the time the Missionary stamps were being sold and used from Honolulu. Again I repeat that the small circular Honolulu postmark on the Grinnell stamps which reads, "HONOLULU - U. S. POSTAGE PAID" - with month and day in the center is a counterfeit, as the type used differs in a number of respects from the genuine original. If the Grinnell stamps are genuine why do a number of them have this counterfeit postmark? Surely no one in their right mind would apply a fake postmark to unused copies of such an extremely rare stamp.

Hours and hours were spent at the trial with testimony by experts on the stamps who pointed out this and that minor difference in design of the stamps, with the use of greatly enlarged photographs and the plaintiff even brought a renowned expert from Spain to testify as to why the "bits of paper" could not possibly be genuine.

To those who still have a lurking suspicion that the Grinnells might be genuine, may I offer this suggestion - locate a genuine Honolulu cover, one that is genuine beyond a question of a doubt with the Grinnell counterfeit Honolulu postmark and you will have accomplished as great a feat as having a camel pass thru the eye of a needle.

END OF ISSUE NO. 58
JANUARY 1, 1956

Fifth Series of 1955 - 1956
Eighth Issue of the Fifth Series
Five (5) photographs - 236 to 240 inc.

ASHEROOK SPECIAL SERVICE

ISSUE NO. 59 - FEBRUARY 1, 1956 (Fifth Series - 1955-1956)

THE CASPARY SECOND SALE - JANUARY 16-17-18, 1956

The second sale of the famous collection formed by the late Alfred H. Caspary was held in New York City on January 16th, 17th and 18th last, and as was expected record prices were established. This sale was confined to the U. S. issues of 1847 to 1860 inclusive, consisting of some 836 lots which grossed a total of \$296,189.50. This with the first sale of \$225,340.00, gave a total of \$521,530.00 to date

THE 5¢ 1847

In the second sale there were two unused blocks of eight of the 5¢ 1847, one sold @ \$4,600.00 - the other @ \$2,700.00. An unused single with sheet margin sold @ \$700.00. Among the used single copies there were nine which sold above \$200.00 each, one going as high as \$380.00. I thought that Lots #36 and #37 were especially desirable. Both were singles described as "Brown" and in my opinion, apparently used on the same cover, possibly a 10¢ rate on a letter to Canada. The cancellation was described as a red grid of wavy lines. The fact is that this cancellation was that of the Hudson River Mail, though no mention of this was made in the Catalogue description. This seventeen-bar round grid of wavy lines was only in use for about six or eight months during 1849. It is quite an outstanding and most unusual cancellation, and is believed to have been used by a route agent on the Express Mail Line on the Steamboat Route between New York City to Albany and Troy. Covers with 1847 stamps canceled by this grid and with the round postmark "Hudson Riv. Mail N.Y.," with date in center are decidedly rare. Lot 36 sold at \$300.00 and Lot 37 at \$190.00. As compared to some of the fantastic prices of this sale, Lot 37 was surely a bargain.

HUDSON RIVER MAIL

On numerous occasions I have mentioned the fine article by Dr. Carroll Chase on the "Forty Sevens" that was published way back in 1916. In that article the author illustrated a very rare cover with a single 5¢ 1847 canceled by this 17 bar grid and the postmark as above with date of "JUL 29." It was addressed to "Cooperstown N.Y." and the year of use was surely 1849. This cover came up as Lot 15 in the Gibson sale in June 1944 by Ward and was purchased by the late Alfred Brigham for \$415.00. In the same sale, Lot 16 was a cover with a single 10¢ '47 with this rare grid addressed to Montreal.

In the fine collection of "Forty Sevens" owned by my good friend Colonel M. H. Judd of Dalton, Ga., is a very rare cover with a pair of the 5¢ '47 canceled twice and tied by this "17 bar," and date of "Aug 3" - (1849). This cover to Port Gibson, N.Y. Quite a rarity. One would imagine the Caspary collection would have included a cover of the "Hudson River Mail"

but none were in the sale. The fact is that there were a number of fine things among the Forty-sevens that Mr. Caspary did not possess. In my opinion, an extremely fine collection of the "Forty-sevens" should include a fine cover with both the 5¢ and 10¢ '47 - a cover showing the First Issue of U. S. postage stamps. There was no such an item in the second sale of the Caspary collection. One would suppose he would have owned a "5¢ orange" - or covers with the Binghamton, N.Y. "Herrington grid" in all three colors, - red, green and black. I might also mention a "Wheeling Va" - cover with a "Procancel." I wonder what such as these would have realized in this sale of fantastic prices? A sale of amazing prices, rather than a sale of a great wealth of rare philatelic Americana, with a few exceptions.

In this sale there were two off cover singles of the 5¢ with the scarce red "scarab" of St. Johnsbury, Vt. - Lots 50 and 51, sale prices \$230.00 and \$240.00. There was no such a cover. One wonders why.

THE 5¢ 1847 "C" DOUBLE TRANSFER

Lot 78 was a very fine used H. Pair, in the brown orange shade, the left stamp, the rare "C" double transfer (S.U.S. \$300 as a single). I know of no other multiple with this plate variety. It realized \$775.00. This was surely a print of 1850 or 1851.

THE WAUKEGAN GRID

Lot 88 was a cover with a 5¢ '47 tied to cover by the distinctive round grid with six (6) wide bars of Waukegan, Ill. This cover was addressed to La Salle, Ill. Incidentally, this reminds me that this town of La Salle, Ill. used a "scarab" similar to the St. Johnsbury, Vt. and applied it in black. Lot 88, the Waukegan sold @ \$370.00. Lot 169 consisted of two beautiful covers with the Waukegan grid, one a cover with two 5¢ 1847's, the other a cover with a single 10¢ 1847. This lot sold @ \$2,000.00. These two covers came from the Wm. West collection and in the West sale by Ward in April 1943, they were likewise sold as one lot (291) to Cole, presumably for Caspary for \$660.00.

WAUKEGAN 10¢ '47 COVER

Lot 170 was the well-known E. S. Knapp cover with a left sheet margin H.S. of four of the 10¢ '47 tied by five strikes in deep red of the distinctive Waukegan grid. It sold @ \$7,250.00. In the Knapp sale of May 10th, 1941, the cover was Lot #2308 and sold @ \$2,175.00. It was described in the Knapp sale as follows: "It is regarded as the finest 1847 cover known." Some may question that statement.

AN 1847 COVER TO AUSTRIA

Lot 117 was a 5¢ '47 on a cover to Austrian Silesia from Baltimore, the stamp tied by the well-known rate marking, "5" in red used at

that office. The sale price was \$400.00. In the Knapp sale, this item was Lot #2190, and cost Harold Carhart \$115.00.

1847 STAMPS USED FROM CANADA

Lot 118 was a cover from the Kennedy correspondence to New York from Montreal in February 1850 with two singles of the 5¢ canceled by red round grids of the New York Office. This rare cover sold for \$1,450.00 which was surely a modest figure in comparison with many other prices in this sale. Canada had not issued any postage stamps as early as February 1850, hence their postages were paid by cash or charge. There is a memo on this cover, "PAID BOX 186." Evidently the Canadian addressor put on the two 5¢ '47 stamps to pay the U. S. postage from the border to New York City and instructed the Montreal office to charge the Canadian postage of 4½ pence currency to Box 186.

USE OF THE NEW YORK ROUND GRID

1847 covers from New York showing use of the round grid are quite a scarce item, yet this grid is well known on the Forty-sevens on mail to and from Canada. We wonder if there is any significance?

TWO EXTREMELY RARE AND INTERESTING COVERS

Lot 119 was a folded letter with a pair of the 5¢ 1847 used from Montreal May 2, 1851 to New York City, the stamps canceled and tied by two strikes of a Canadian target in black. Bear in mind the date of use. I wonder how many collectors appreciated the significance of this cover? It is in an entirely different classification from Lot 118 which I described above, because it shows no payment of any Canadian postage, and I think the explanation is obvious. A postal agreement between the U. S. and Canada went into effect on April 6, 1851, whereby postages in either country could be paid to destinations in the other. The rate from the U. S. (California and Oregon excepted) was fixed at 10¢ per ½ oz., and from Canada to the U. S. at six pence currency (California & Oregon excepted). Prepayment was optional. The first Canadian postage stamps were issued during the last week of April 1851. An official circular dated April 21, 1851, announced "Postage stamps are about to be issued." The Caspary cover (Lot 119) shows use from Montreal on May 2, 1851, and apparently this letter went thru the Canadian mail with the pair of 5¢ 1847 paying the entire postage - not merely from the border to New York. Here we do have a most unusual case of U. S. stamps used from Canada, and canceled there and paying the entire rate. This cover (#119) sold at \$2,800.00 and there was a rumor to the effect that the buyer sold it the next day to a collector for \$3,500.00.

Lot 173 was a similar cover but with a single 10¢ 1847 canceled and tied by the same Montreal target killer in black. Both covers addressed to Messrs. E. D. Morgan & Co., New York, and both in the same handwriting. I believe that the 10¢ cover is even more remarkable than the 5¢, inasmuch as it was used from Montreal on Sept. 4, 1851, two months after the 1847 stamps had been demonetized by the U. S. Postmaster General. This

10¢ cover sold @ \$3,000.00. Too bad that both covers did not go into the same collection as they are truly a wonderful pair.

On several occasions in the past I have mentioned the firm of E. D. Morgan & Co., to whom the covers were addressed, and again I would like to give a few facts regarding that great American Edwin Dennison Morgan, the head of that famous New York mercantile firm. From 1856 until 1864 Mr. Morgan was Chairman of the Republican National Committee, and in 1858 he was elected Governor of the State of New York. I doubt if any one man had any more to do with the nomination and election of Abraham Lincoln in 1860 to the presidency of the U. S. than Governor Morgan. When President-elect Lincoln journeyed to Washington for his inauguration in February of 1861 he stopped over at Albany and was entertained by Governor Morgan with a dinner in his honor. That was a very grave time in the history of the Republic but the President-elect had no stauncher supporter than the great Governor of the powerful state of New York. In 1872 he was again chosen as Chairman of the National Republican Committee and conducted the successful campaign that resulted in the second election of General Grant.

It is said that an old and trusted clerk in the employ of the Morgan firm stole a lot of old covers at various times with 1847 stamps from old files stored in the loft of the Morgan firm and sold them to the firm of Burger & Co., stamp dealers of Nassau St. In fact, the story goes that the culprit was caught in the act. Perhaps you own one of these "E. D. Morgan" covers.

A 10¢ 1857 TYPE V USED FROM CANADA

In the collection of my valued friend Emerson C. Krug of Birmingham, Ala., is quite a remarkable cover. It has a 10¢ 1857 Type V used from Montreal on "May 10" - and canceled with a grid at that Canadian office. See Photograph No. 28 in this Service. The mailing date was doubtless 1860 or 1861. It shows a 10¢ U. S. stamp used from and canceled in Canada and paying the thru rate. It is unique as far as I am aware. I have never recorded another such 10¢ 1857 cover.

AGAIN THE CASPARY SALE

Lot 172 was another cover used from Montreal with a single 10¢ 1847 on March 13, 1851 and addressed to Messrs. E. D. Morgan & Co. This cover was evidently from the same source as Lot 118 (as above described) as both have "Paid Box 186." Lot 118 addressed to the Kennedy firm, and Lot 172 to the Morgan firm. This cover has the 10¢ stamp tied by the familiar curved "PAID" of New York. My analysis of Lot 118 also applies to Lot 172. The sale price was \$2,500.00.

AN UNUSED PAIR OF THE 10¢ 1847

Lot 125, a 10¢ '47, was described as a H.Pair, unused with full o.g. - and as "magnificent." It realized \$2,000.00.

Lot 127 was described as an unused vertical pair of the 10¢ "large part o.g.," but with defects. Sale price \$370.00.

Lot 120 was a single 10¢ '47 with wide top sheet and parts of stamps to right and left. Unused and part o.g. - Sale price \$1,800.00.

Lot 112 was a single 10¢ '47 on a piece of cover canceled with a red grid and blue Baltimore postmark, a rather striking combination, hence it brought \$700.00.

Lot 117 was a H.S. of five (5) of the 10¢ - sheet at left, and off cover with red grids and some defects. Sale price was \$1,900.00.

Lot 167 was a legal size cover with four singles of the 10¢ used from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, the stamps canceled by an encircled "6" in blue. Sale price \$1,500.00.

Lots 174, 175, 176 and 177 were four covers with halves of the 10¢ used as 5¢. These sold as follows: \$1,100, \$1,900, \$600 and \$1,700.

In later issues of this Service we will discuss further items in the Caspary sale, but before doing so we will include some remarks here regarding,

THE COVER WITH THE 90¢ 1860.

Lot #819, the top item in the sale was a cover from New York City on November 3, 1860 to Barcelona, Spain, with three stamps of the 1857-1860 issues as follows - I include the earliest known uses:

5¢ 1857 Type II - Brown - (30A) Earliest use in my record
(A right pane imprint) May 14, 1860

10¢ 1857 Type V - Green - (35) Earliest use May 5, 1859

90¢ 1860 - Blue (39) Earliest use Sept. 11, 1860.

(Note:- The S. U. S. gives Aug. 13, 1860 but I have no record of any item that I consider genuine used that early).

Photograph 241, illustrates this perfect gem of a cover. The S. U. S. quotes a 90¢ 1860 on cover @ \$2,500.00, but this cover to Spain realized the sum of \$10,500.00. This is the highest price ever recorded to my knowledge for a cover with a stamp of the general issues of the U.S.

My analysis of this cover follows:

90¢ 1860 - superb copy - correct color for a use in November 1860, correct shade of paper, for a genuinely used copy. All three stamps canceled by three strikes of the red ringless grid of the foreign division of the New York Post Office in use at that period on foreign mail - the correct color of the red ink. Total postage \$1.05.

Rate - This was a five (5) times rate "by French Mail" @ 21¢ per one quarter ounce (7½ grammes) - (5 x 21¢ = \$1.05).

The U. S. did not have a postal treaty with Spain at that time, hence this letter was sent under the terms of the U. S.-French postal treaty

of 1857.

The Route - The route was by American Packet to England, thence across Channel to Calais and thru France by French mail to Spain. The division of the single rate, and five times same was as follows:

U. S. Share (single)	9¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. or 5 x 9¢ = 45¢
French " "	12¢ " $\frac{1}{4}$ " " 5 x 12¢ = 60¢
Single total	21¢ " $\frac{1}{4}$ " " total = \$1.05

The U. S. share of 9¢ was as follows:

U. S. internal per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. ...	3¢
Sea-Atlantic to England ...	6¢
(Amer. Packet)	9¢

On such a single rate of 21¢, the U. S. P.O.D. credited the French O P.O.D. with 12¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. - or on a quintuple rate of \$1.05, the sum of 5 x 12¢ or 60¢. This credit of "60" appears on the face of this cover in manuscript in a magenta color ink. By Amer. Pkt. Via England, meant to the British frontier, hence this letter was then conveyed by British mail to France and for such transmission France settled with Britain at approximately 3¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. Thus our credit to France of 12¢ single, represented the following division per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.:

Britain's share	3¢
French Internal	3¢
For French transmission to	
Spain	6¢
Total ...	12¢
(5 x 12¢ = 60¢)	

By American Packet - Sailing Date.

Mail forwarded by "Am Pkt." did not necessarily mean by a steamship of U. S. register, but rather mail that was forwarded at the expense of the U. S. Post Office Department. Saturday of each week was the day of departure of such mail ships for Europe from New York, with mail by "Am Pkt." The red postmark on this cover to Spain is "NOV 3" and in 1860, this was Saturday. This letter was routed by the steamer "Illinois." A French transit marking ties the 5¢ 1857 with a day date that is rather indistinct. Back markings show the letter reached Barcelona on Nov. 23, 1860. The Spanish postage due of "16 RS" is handstamped in black on the face - I suppose this was 16 Reales.

THE MAIL "S. S. ILLINOIS"

This ship was a wooden paddler built by Messrs. Smith & Dimon of New York in 1851 as the "Louisiana." Before she was finished she was purchased by George Law of the "Law Line," who had her completed according to his own ideas for service that he had established between New York and Chagres, Panama during the California gold rush. She was the third ship of the "Law Line" and by far the finest. Her record passage from Chagres to New York of six days sixteen hours stood for

many years.

In February of 1860, she was sold at auction to Cornelius Vanderbilt who placed her on his New York-Havre Line in the spring of that year. In 1861 she was chartered by Vanderbilt to the U.S. War Department to transport troops in the Civil War, and in 1864 to carry exchanged Confederate prisoners of war to Savannah. After the war she served as a quarantine ship at Hoffman's Island in lower New York Harbor until about 1900, after which time it is believed she was dismantled.

It is believed that the runner-up in the bidding for this unique cover, represented a very wealthy European collector, and if so, it is worthy of note that someone on the Continent was willing to pay a record price for a cover with a copy of a U. S. postage stamp of our general issues. Our congratulations to the U. S. buyer for keeping this gem in this country.

THE 90¢ 1860

The 90¢ of 1860 was probably issued in August of that year, but I have no record of any cover used that early. It was demonetized along with other "old stamps" a year later at the outbreak of the Civil War because Southern post offices had large stocks of the "old stamps" and Government envelopes.

The 90¢ is quite rare on the original cover and it seems possible that this is due to a great extent to the fact that in the early days of philately, the old time collectors removed stamps from covers in order to fill blank spaces in their stamp albums. We have a record of "pieces of covers" with the 90¢ stamp, some of which are genuine, others are fakes. We also have off cover used copies but about nine out of ten are fraudulent. And of course we have faked covers, where a stamp was removed and a 90¢ added, with a fraudulent cancellation to match the genuine strikes on the other stamps on the covers. An excellent example of such fraudulent work is -

THE 90¢ 1860 "AMITAGE COVER"

which the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation stated was "genuine in every respect," and they issued a certificate to that effect. See Photograph No. 235 of this fraudulent cover, which was addressed to Calcutta. In last month's issue of this Service I furnished a photograph of a cover to Calcutta with the single 21¢ rate by "Impr. Pkt." (see Photo 236). This cover was addressed to "CALEE LADD ESQ."

Photograph No. 242, illustrates a cover to the same person at Calcutta from the same source and showing a letter dispatched by British Packet (Cunard) with a 5¢ 1857 - Type II Brown tied by the large Boston PAID in grid. The two Ladd covers, Photos #236 and #242, both from Boston, show the two principal payments required on mail to Calcutta, at that time in the early eighteen sixties, viz:

- A) If by "Am. Pkt" 21¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
- B) If by "BP. Pkt" 5¢ " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

The former paid the 5¢ U. S. "Internal" plus the 16¢ Atlantic Sea, whereas the latter paid only the U. S. "Internal" of 5¢.

The faked Armitage cover was a use from New York in January of 1861. The official rate furnished postmasters for the month of January 1861 for the route which these three letters were forwarded was as follows (per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.):

East Indies

Open Mail, Via London by Amer. Pkt	21¢
" " " " " British Pkt	5¢

Such payments were not optional, but compulsory.

THE UNIQUE CASPARY 12¢ 1851 BISECT COVER

In last month's issue, Photograph #240 illustrated Lot 577 in the Caspary sale of January 17th last. I note that this cover sold @ \$1,600.00. From San Francisco to Liverpool with the 29¢ rate overpaid by one cent.

THE CASPARY 5¢ 1857 "INDIAN RED" COVER TO BELGIUM

In the November 1955 issue, Photograph #234 illustrated a rare cover to Brussels, Belgium with eight copies of the 5¢ 1857, Type I Indian Red, or what the S. U. S. calls the "Henna Brown." In the Caspary sale of January 18th last, this cover was Lot #677 and sold at \$700.00. Compared with many other prices of the sale, this was quite a bargain in my opinion.

As stated above, in future issues we will discuss items in the second Caspary sale.

COVER OF FIRST DAY - 5¢ NEW YORK P.M. PROVISIONAL

JULY 15 1845

Photograph No. 242, illustrates a very interesting and rare cover that was sold in a Mozian sale held in New York on January 19th, 1956. This is a first day of use of a 5¢ New York on a cover to Lyon, France. The stamp is an unsigned copy and is tied to the cover, (a blue folded letter), by the well-known curved PAID in red that was used at that office. The 5¢ New York was printed from a copper plate of 40 subjects arranged 8V x 5H. The postmaster who issued the stamp at his expense, was Robert H. Morris. The first stamps sold to the public were not signed, thus first day covers, of which a dozen are in existence, bear unsigned stamps. It is believed that Mr. Morris signed his initials R.H.M. to two sheets, and later in July all sheets were signed with an "A.C.H." The earliest record that I have of a cover with a stamp with "R.H.M." is July 18, 1845. I recorded this cover years ago and I note it was Lot #130 in the recent Mozian sale. My earliest record of an "A.C.H." signed copy on cover is July 28, 1845, though I have a memo that a cover was in a sale some years ago with an "A.C.H." copy and New York postmark of "JUL 23" (1845). Because of no confirmation this

is not listed. My second earliest of record is July 30, 1845 and my third is July 31, 1845.

Again referring to the cover as per Photograph #243, this letter from New York on July 15, 1845 was sent to Boston and from there by a Cunard British mail ship to England and thence to France. The U. S. payment was merely the U. S. domestic rate of 5¢ per ½ oz. for a distance of 300 miles or less. Incidentally, this rate had only become effective two weeks previous. In the past I have referred to such payments on mail to foreign countries as the "Shore to Ship," with no intention to infer that the payment included any fee, such as a "Ship Fee."

In 1845, the Cunard mail ships sailed between Boston and Liverpool, and did not run down to New York. The sailings at that early period, was generally on Wednesday, weather permitting. In 1845 July 15th, the New York postmark date, fell on Tuesday, hence this letter was sent to Boston for the sailing of the British Packet the next day.

This "first day" has a framed marking in red which reads, "COLONIES & C. ART 12." This may seem a bit unusual as it is possible that we are more familiar with the same marking which has "ART 13." Such markings were applied by the British Post Office Department on unpaid mail exchanged between the two countries under terms of the Anglo-French postal treaty of April 3, 1843, to indicate which article in the treaty the letter was to be rated by the French P.O.D. The marking with "Art 12" was applied between June 1, 1843 and December 31, 1845. The "Art 13" was used from Jan. 1, 1846 to December 31st, 1855. This interesting cover shows a manuscript French postage due marking of '20 decimes (it looks like 90), which was approximately 38¢ in our money. This was what this letter cost the addressee in Lyon, France from the U. S. frontier to destination,

END OF ISSUE NO. 59

FEBRUARY 1, 1956

Fifth Series of 1955-1956

Ninth Issue of the Fifth Series

Three (3) photographs - 241-242-243 inclusive.

ASHBROOK SPECIAL SERVICE

ISSUE NO. 60 - MARCH 1, 1956 (Fifth Series - 1955-1956)

HUDSON RIVER MAIL

In last month's issue of this Service (page 467) I mentioned that in the collection of Colonel M. H. Judd of Dalton, Ga., was a rare cover with a pair of the 5¢ 1847 canceled with the unique "17 wavy bars grid" of the "Hudson River Mail." Thru the kindness of Col. Judd I am privileged to present a photograph of this unusual item.

Photograph #244, illustrates the cover and shows to good advantage the two red strikes of this canceling device that was used by a mail route agent who traveled the Hudson River steamboat mail contract route between New York City, Albany and Troy, N.Y. The postmark on this cover is likewise in red and reads, "HUDSON RIV. MAIL N.Y." - the date, "AUG 3" - (1849). This was Mail Route #809 and in the Annual Report of the P.M.G. of 1850 it was described as follows: From New York to Albany and Troy. 150 miles. 19 trips per week. 13 times a week to Albany and 6 times to Troy. Annual compensation \$30,000.00.

The Judd cover, a folded letter from New York City, is addressed to Port Gibson, N. Y. It was deposited in the New York Post Office but was carried direct to the mail steamboat and mailed direct with the route agent. I wondered if there was any particular reason why this was done, and there certainly was and Col. Judd furnished me with the explanation.

THE GREAT CHOLERA EPIDEMIC OF 1849

During a part of June, the Months of July and August and into September of 1849, a great epidemic of the dread disease of cholera raged thruout the eastern and middle western section of the country. A perfectly healthy person stricken with the killer could be dead within 24 to 36 hours. If you care to look up the statistics re - the number of victims by cities and states, I believe you will be amazed at the casualties, especially during the fateful months of July and August.

Col. Judd informed me that the President proclaimed Friday, August 3, 1849 a day of prayer and fasting and all business houses and public offices were closed. Thus this letter bearing that postmarked date of "AUG 3" was taken direct to the steamboat and mailed because the New York Post Office was closed. The letter itself has the following, quote: "You will not get this until Monday now as Mr. B. did not take it to the office yesterday. Today is fast day all over the Union, no business done." (unquote) How very interesting!!! Here is a cover with a story, and again I repeat, it is the story behind the cover that sets it apart from just another cover and gives it individuality.

THE 5¢ JEFFERSON OF 1856-1861

I am just in receipt of a very handsome book entitled, "THE UNITED STATES FIVE CENT STAMPS OF 1856-1861, compiled by Henry Hill." I understand that this is a very limited edition of only 500 copies and that the book, priced at \$8.50, can be obtained from John Fox, 173 Tulip Ave., Floral Park, N. Y. I urge all of my friends to send for a copy of this new book at once without any delay because the supply will surely be exhausted in a short time. It is profusely illustrated with items from Mr. Hill's very fine specialized collection of the wonderful old 5¢ Jefferson stamp, the first U. S. stamp to honor that great American with his portrait.

THE U. S. STAMPS OF 1852-1855-1856-1857-1860 and 1861KNOWN AS THE 1851-1857 ISSUES

In addition to the Luff and Brodman books on U. S. 19th Century issues, we have the Ashbrook two-volume study of the One Cent, the Chase study of the 3¢, the Ashbrook study of the 10¢, the Tracy-Ashbrook study of the 12¢, but no book up to this time devoted entirely to the 5¢. A number of fine articles have been published in the past forty years with extremely valuable data regarding the higher values, the 24¢, 30¢ and 90¢ of 1860. It would be a real contribution to scientific philately if some competent student would gather together all the mass of past published information and carefully compile a worth while up-to-date book on the 24¢, 30¢ and 90¢ stamps of 1860.

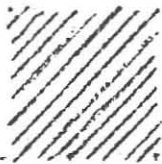
AGAIN THE 5¢ 1856

In the Caspary sale by H. R. Harmer, Inc., last January 17th, Lot 454 was a cover from Albany, N. Y. to Stockton, Calif., with a vertical pair of the 5¢ 1856 to pay the 10¢ rate. The date was "Apr 4," no year. There is no question but what the use of pairs of this stamp to pay the Ocean Mail rate are extremely scarce, but it seemed to me that \$1,200.00 was quite a sum to pay for this cover. The following lot, No. 455 was from the same correspondence with two vertical pairs of the 5¢ 1856, from Albany, two weeks later(?) on "Apr 19" - probably 1856, from the shade and impressions of the three pairs. The two pairs on this cover are really superb - full margins all around and both from the 9th and 10th horizontal rows of the plate. I wonder if they were originally a block of four? This was a double 10¢ rate from east to west and the cover sold at the all time record price of \$4,300.00.

In next month's issue I hope to furnish a photograph of this remarkable item with further comment concerning it. Incidentally, Lots 454 and 455 should have remained together and should not have been separated. What a page these two would make.

FURTHER REGARDING THE JANUARY CASPARY SALE

Among the 10¢ 1847 covers in the Caspary sale was one that I consider-



ed especially interesting, and which I am illustrating here by, Photograph #215. This, a white folded letter, postmarked "KALAMAZOO MICH" "JAN 26" - the 10¢ stamp tied by a red square grid quite similar to the one used at that period at New York City. The cover also contained a "10" rate stamp, and was addressed to Lockport, N. Y. I was quite intrigued with this cover because never had I run across a square grid of this type used on 1847 stamps at any other office outside of New York City. All three markings on this cover are in a bright vermillion. Quite an unusual item which sold at \$420.00.

THE DETROIT SQUARE GRID

Detroit used a square grid very similar to the New York type but as far as known it was never used on the 1847 stamps. According to my good friend Fred Schmalzriedt, the earliest use known of this cancelor at Detroit was in the spring of 1853 and its use is known to him as late as the early half of the eighteen seventies. In late years of its use I suspect it was used in the Detroit Registry Division. I may be wrong but it has been my experience that covers showing the Detroit square grid (always black?) are by no means common. Can you show one? I would welcome data on the Kalamazoo or Detroit square grids, especially the former. Incidentally, Detroit generally used a round grid in red on the 1847 stamps.

THE ONE CENT 1851 - 99R2 - Type III

Lot 244 in the January Caspary sale was an unused strip of three of the One Cent 1851 from Plate 2, the center stamp being the famous 99R2, Type III, the other two stamps in the strip being Type II. In my opinion, 99R2 is the finest example among all the One Cent stamps of the scarce to rare Type III. In Volume One of my One Cent book, I gave quite a description and illustrations of the 99R2. This Caspary strip, (unused), sold at \$2,500.00.

THE ONE CENT 1857 - 99R2 - TYPE III

Lot #602 was a mint block of nine, 3 x 3 of the One Cent 1857, from Plate 2, the center stamp in the bottom three being the extremely rare perfed 99R2. This block, a truly gorgeous item, was described as "brilliant" - mint - and fresh. The perforations appeared as perfect as could be expected in a block from this plate. The sale price was \$8,250.00, indicating that the buyer, whoever he was, had a true appreciation of this remarkable philatelic gem. This unused block contained the only 1¢ 1857 - 99R2, that Mr. Caspary owned, at least there was no other in the sale. There was not a single in unused or used condition, nor was there a cover in the sale with the perfed 99R2, Type III.

THE ONE CENT 1857 - 99R2 - TYPE III

The S. U. S. quotes the 1¢ 1851, Type I - 7R1E, at \$1,000.00 used, on cover (single) at \$1,500.00. In comparison, the 1¢ 1857 - 99R2 is

quoted at \$800.00 used, and on cover at \$1,250.00. The Caspary sale had five of the One Cent 1851, 7RLE, but no used copies of the perf 99R2, off or on cover. There is no question in my mind that the One Cent 1851, 99R2 is a much rarer stamp than the 7RLE. Some very fine collections possess a 7RLE, and also an imperf 99R2, but the One Cent 1851, 99R2 is generally missing. I am convinced that this stamp is very much under-catalogued, especially in this day and age of the depreciated dollar.

1¢ 1851 - TYPE III - 99R2

In the sale, Lot 245 was a cover with a single of the imperf 99R2. It sold at \$1,200.00. It was described as "one of the finest known covers of this rarity." Considering other fantastic prices in this sale this cover was a great bargain.

Lot 246 was a used strip of three with the imperf 99R2. This strip was cut into at top, hence it sold at the very low price of \$210.00, proving that all the prices in this sale were not fantastic. Thus the sale had three imperf 99R2 in used condition but not a used example of the 1¢ 1851 - 99R2, Type III.

WAY 6

Lot 253 was a beautiful off cover H. S. of 3 from Plate One Early, hit three times with an encircled "WAY 6" in blue. I have seen this marking before but I do not know where it was used. I will greatly appreciate any information. The use must have been in 1851. Though the strip was described as having defects, it sold at \$190.00. A most unusual item.

Lot 257 was a cover with a H. S. of six of the 1¢ 1851 from Plate One Early used from Sacramento, Calif. on March 1, 1852 to Illinois by the Ocean Mail Via Panama and New York City. The 6¢ rate paid by a strip of six from the semi-scarce Plate One Early is a most desirable gem. The sale price was \$775.00.

Mr. Caspary had a large lot of the One Cent 1851, so evidently he liked this grand old Franklin stamp and he apparently was quite a student of the types and plates.

THE 3¢ 1851 IN THE CASPARY SALE

I will not attempt to discuss many of the exceptional items in this part of the sale as the catalogue speaks for itself. I will mention some that I thought were really remarkable. For example, Lot 362, an unused block of 12, (4H x 3V) from the left pane of Plate 3. The sale price was \$360.00.

Lot 374, a remarkable vertical pair with imprint and plate number at left sold at only \$150.00, a bargain in my opinion.

Lot 377 was a block of four with four strikes of the well-known Chicopee "Star." The sale price was \$130.00 for this show-piece.

Lot 407 was a very rare cover with a H. Pair of the 3¢ 1851, with the marking, "Independent Line Ahead of the Mails, Yankee Blade and North Star Via Panama." See my One Cent book, Vol. 2. A marvelous item that sold for \$520.00. Postmarked "New York JUN 24." A cover that originated in California and was carried by the "Independent Line" (no mail contract) "outside of the mail" Via Panama and placed in the mail at New York City upon arrival on June 24, the year 1854. This cover shows no actual year use but my records disclose that the use was 1854.

3¢ 1851 BISECT

Lot 415 was a cover from St. Louis to New York City with a 3¢ 1851 - a vertical two-thirds used as a 1¢ to pay the circular rate. I made an exhaustive study of this cover, and of every detail of the postmark by a number of enlarged photographs and was unable to find any evidence to indicate the cover is not genuine in every respect. It sold very cheap at \$440.00.

THE 5¢ 1856 IN THE CASPARY SALE

Lot 420 was a 5¢ 1856 described as an unused H. Pair, "part o.g." "fresh and good color" - and, quote: "Only a few unused pairs exist and this is one of the finest known." I assume all of this description is quite true. The sale price was \$3,050.00. I thought it most remarkable that such a pair, rare as it is, could possibly command such a price. I think it is but one of the many demonstrations of the faith that some men of substantial wealth have in the soundness of philatelic investments.

MARCH 1856

This is March 1956, and it was just one hundred years ago this month that the 5¢ Jefferson was issued to the public. It is almost a hundred years since any of these stamps were issued, and none will ever be issued again. Governments can issue bonds and companies can issue stocks but there will never again be any 5¢ 1856 adhesives issued to the public. Just a thought to bear in mind.

The Caspary sale had some beautiful four-margin singles and some exceptional items showing the center line. Lot 435 was a gorgeous left pane imprint single that sold at \$800.00. Imprint copies are extremely rare. Lot 443 was a cover with a single 5¢ 1856 used from New Orleans to France, Sept. 1, 1856. The stamp was described as superb and it must have been because an experienced buyer paid \$1,550.00. The description was, "A wonderful stamp and cover." It never occurred to me that a cover to France from New Orleans with a single 5¢ 1856 was in the thousand dollar class but I suppose I am of the old school. I can remember when a cover with a single 5¢ 1856 was considered a bit high at even \$75.00. I thought Lot #446, a cover with a very fine single 5¢ 1856 used from New Orleans to Sardinia with the "G.B." marking was a very desirable item. In contrast to Lot 443, it sold at \$550.00. And Lot 448, a similar item, "fetched" \$480.00.

Lot 452 was a cover with a H. Pair with extra large sheet margin at bottom used from New Orleans, Dec. 5, 1856, to France. The "sheet" at bottom was stated to measure over 14 MM. Just imagine. The pair was described as "absolutely perfect." A single 5¢ 1856 paid the single half-ounce "U. S. Internal" rate under the U.S.-British postal treaty of 1843. This letter evidently weighed over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, hence required 2 x 5¢. Such a double rate cover is exceptionally rare whether paid by two 5¢ 1856 or a single 10¢ 1855, hence in the Caspary cover we have what is perhaps the finest bottom row sheet margin pair in existence, paying an exceptionally rare double rate. The sale price was \$6,000.00. Quite a lot of money but what a marvelous cover!! (see Photograph 89 of this Service). The Caspary cover was rated at New York as slightly over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., hence required 2 x 5¢. In France it was first rated with a due of 13 decimes, but this was crossed out and 26 decimes substituted. It is interesting to note that while it weighed over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., the French did not find that it weighed over 15 grammes. Had it been just a bit heavier, the French due would have been 39 decimes.

Lot 453 was a cover with a H. Pair of the 5¢ with sheet and center line to left from Buffalo, N.Y. in May 1857 to Canada. Evidently a gorgeous pair in color and margins because the sale price was \$1,800.00.

Lot 456 was a cover showing the 21¢ rate to France by Amer. Pkt. in November 1856, and paid by four singles of the 5¢ 1856 plus a 1¢ 1851. Apparently the stamps were not all superb because the sale price was only \$850.00. This 21¢ rate paid by this combination is most unusual.

Lot 457 was a cover to France with a H. S. of three of the 5¢ 1856 in Sept. 1857. The sale price was \$1,400.00.

What about S. U. S. quotations for the 5¢ 1856? A used single is quoted at \$70.00 and on cover at \$150.00. A pair at \$250.00 and a strip of three at \$335.00, with a block of four at \$1,500.00. Apparently these figures apply to just any kind of condition from fair to very poor, surely not to "good" - "fine," or "superb."

THE U. S. 10¢ OF 1855 IN THE CASPARY SALE

Lot 458 was a single of the Type I of the 10¢ 1855 described as unused - o.g. - full margins with nice sheet at bottom and the variety with "curl" in left "X" - position 99PL. An unused Type I is quoted by the S. U. S. at \$500.00. This superb copy realized \$950.00.

Lot 459 was a super superb USED Type I off cover with an exceptionally large bottom sheet, with part of the stamp above and ample side margins, canceled Stockton, Cal. It sold at \$550.00 in comparison to the S. U. S. figure of \$65.00.

Lot 463 was a cover with a superb single of the Type I, tied by the blue Marysville, Cal. "PAID BY STAMPS." It sold at \$625.00. Just imagine!! The S. U. S. quotes \$90.00 for a Type I on cover.

Lot 468 was a cover with a H. S. of four of the Type I to Mexico. The sale price was \$900.00.

Lot 471 was an off cover unused block of four of Types II and III. Sale price \$800.00.

Lot 472 was an off cover unused block of four from the top right corner of the right pane with sheet at top and right - truly a wonderful item for those who prefer their stamps in unused condition. All stamps Type II. Incidentally, a block of four - all stamps Type II, is very much more rare than a block with both Types II and III, because the former comes only from the two top horizontal rows of the plate. The description stated, "PROBABLY UNIQUE" and I have little doubt this is correct. The sale price was \$2,600.00.

Lot 480 was an off cover H. S. of four of Type II with sheet and center line at right - full margins all around, and in my opinion, a real show-piece and the price was only \$320.00. Someone got a bargain.

Lot 481 was an off cover block of twelve (6H x 2V) of Types II and III. Truly a magnificent block and of the greatest rarity. Sale price was \$2,800.00.

10¢ 1855
THE CASPARY BLOCK (P 21)

In August of 1922, the thirty-seventh annual convention of the American Philatelic Society was held at Springfield, Mass. from Monday, August 14th, thru Thursday, the 17th. Dr. Carroll Chase was President at that time and presided at the sessions. The auction sale for the Convention was by the late Bertram L. Drew at the Hotel Kimball on Tuesday night, the 15th. The auctioneer was Wm. L. Aldrich. I went down to the Convention accompanied by Adolph Fennel and Wm. C. Kennett, who was the philatelic secretary of Arthur Hind, and I have a very vivid memory of the Drew sale. Bert Drew was a Boston dealer and quite a unique character. The three star lot in the sale was described by Drew as follows, quote:

"Lot 69 - 10¢ (35). Block of twenty-one, vertical, lightly postmarked in black Columbia, Cal. Jan. 19, 1857; no recuts or shifts, would be a star piece by itself on any album page; said to be the largest used block known; condition so remarkable that the most hardened critic succumbs to its charm and is lost in wonder, love and praise: The Gem of the Sale." (unquote)

Well, Arthur Hind did succumb to the charm of this piece and Kennett was the buyer for him at \$1,825.00. I believe the late Judge Emerson was the runner-up. Later I plated the block for Hind and in my 1936 book of the 10¢ 1855-57 I described the item on page 50, giving the plate positions as 1L - 2L - 31L to 61L - 62L - 631L inclusive. In the Hind sale of Nov. 20, 1933 this unique item was Lot 135 and was described as follows, quote: "135 - 10¢ green, left top corner block of 21 used stamps. Nos. 1 and 2 are misplaced transfers. Nos. 10 and 16 are shifts. No. 10 being the big shift. Largest known block of Plate 1. Fine town cancellation in black, Jan. 19, 1857. Estimate \$2,500.00." (unquote) It was sold to Colson, presumably for Caspary for \$1,300.00.

Incidentally, Hind also had a block of 16, (4 x 4), positions 421L to

45L1 to 72L1 to 75L1, with five (5) of the eight Type IV stamps. This was Lot 136 in the sale and was purchased by John Kleeman for \$250.00. Imagine!! This rare Hind block is in the Edgar B. Jessup collection at present.

In the Caspary sale, the block of 21 was Lot 482 and it was purchased by a New York dealer for an undisclosed client for \$7,250.00. According to Sloane in "Stamps" (Feb. 11, 1956), this block was originally one of thirty, (3H x 10V) used to send a valentine (Jan. 19, 1857) from Columbia, Cal. to Portland, Maine. (30 x 10¢). At first the three bottom stamps (all Type I) were cut off, and later the bottom block of six was cut off, reducing the piece to a block of 21. The block of six was reduced to a block of four by cutting off the right vertical pair, and the block of four was sold to the late Franklin Allen of Greenfield, Mass., a very prominent specialist in 19th U. S. in the nineteen-twenties. This block was 71L - 72L (II) 81L - 82L (III).

In the sale of the fine collection of Mr. C. R. Hurd, by Kelleher on Jan. 11th, 1928, Lot #469 was described as a "remarkably fine block of 4 with nearly half of the two stamps at right, the block consisting of Type II at top and Type III at bottom, light Columbia, Cal. pmk, including 157 year date. Extremely rare piece catalogue \$300" (unquote). The sale price was \$470.00. I have no record of the buyer but I suppose the block was purchased by the late Judge Robt. Emerson because in the "Deluxe" sale of material from the Emerson collection by Kelleher on April 12, 1947, this block was Lot 444 and sold at \$725.00. An illustration of the block was furnished in the Kelleher catalogue showing almost a third of the adjoining vertical pair to right. In the description the plate positions were given as 71, 72, 81, 82L1 and town cancellation of Columbia, Cal.

10¢ 1855

SOME REMARKABLE COVERS IN THE CASPARY SALE

Lot 488 was a triple 15¢ rate cover from New Orleans in June 1857 to Paris, the 45¢ paid by a block of four, 10¢ 1855, all Type II, plate positions 1, 2, 11, 12R1 - top left corner of right pane, plus a H. Pair of 1¢ 1851 and a 3¢ 1851. Quite a remarkable cover. Sale price \$875.00. (Note - This block was all Type II).

Lot 491 went to the same buyer as the above and it was described as, "excessively rare and probably unique." It was a "Hargous" cover from New Orleans, Jul. 15, 1856, to Vera Cruz, Mexico, with a H.S. of eight (8), seven Type II and one Type IV. This strip was from the top row of the right pane of Plate One, being 1R1 to 8R1 inclusive with 3R1, the Type IV - recut top only. The sale price was \$650.00. Quite a bargain.

Lot 506 was a Hargous cover to Vera Cruz with a H.S. of four (4) - all Type III. Sale price \$440.00.

Lot 507 was a double 30¢ rate to Bremen by Prussian Closed Mail from

New Orleans in December 1856, with a superb H. S. of six (6) of the Type III. The sale price was \$825.00. In the Scybold sale back in March 1910, this cover was lot 51 and the sale price was \$12.25.

THE 10¢ 1855 - TYPE IV - IN THE CASPARY SALE

Lot 508 was an unused H. S. of eight from the left pane of Plate One, positions 7111 to 7811, consisting of two Type IV, 7411 and 7611 and six, Type II. Wide sheet at left. A very rare and no doubt unique item. The sale price was \$3,100.00.

Lot 515 was described as a cover to Bremen with a H. S. of three, two Type IV and one Type III. Sale price \$850.00.

Lot 512 was a cover from Oregon to Virginia with a single 10¢ 1855 - Type IV, plate position 7611. It realized \$600.00. Quite a price.

Lot 518 was a double rate (2 x 21¢) to Hamburg. This was by "Am. Pkt.," that is, by the "Collins Line," and the rate "PAID ONLY TO ENGLAND." (To the frontier, 5¢ U.S. internal, 16¢ sea). The 42¢ was paid by a V.S. of four (4) of the 10¢ 1855 and a V.P. of the 1¢ 1851, Type II. The 10¢ strip consisted of two Type IV, viz., 5511 and 6511, also a Type II, 7511, and a Type III, 4511. Vertical strips with the Type IV on cover are very rare, hence in my opinion, this cover was quite a bargain at \$330.00.

FURTHER CASPARY GEMS

In later issues of this Service we will discuss other gems from the January Caspary sale.

THE ONE CENT 1857 - TYPE V - EARLIEST KNOWN USE

In the Jan. 1st, 1956 issue of this Service I described on pages 463 and 464 a cover that had recently been submitted to me by Mr. Morris Fortgang of New York City, which showed the earliest known use of a stamp from the Type V plates, Nos. 5 to 10 inc. Thru the kindness of Mr. Fortgang, I am now privileged to furnish an illustration of this cover by

Photograph 246. This is a printed circular dated inside Nov 16 1857, with the Type V stamp tied by a New York postmark of "NOV 17." The stamp is from Plate 8, position 1918. This is the earliest known use of a Type V stamp with month and day in the postmark.

3¢ 1851 BIASECT ON COVER

Photograph 247, illustrates a cover from New Orleans, "May 19," year?, to San Francisco, Calif., with the 10¢ rate paid by three 3¢ 1851, plus a right vertical half of another, (H. Pair + $\frac{1}{2}$ * single). The New Orleans postmark is in red and the stamps are canceled by round grids in black. This rare cover was described by Dr. Carroll Chase in his

3¢ 1851-57 book (1929) on page 212. He stated that the stamps were all 1855 printings and that the cover is, quote: "Almost certainly authentic." I would fix the date of use as May 19, 1856, and the letter was sent direct from New Orleans to Chagres and Via Panama to San Francisco. I made a very careful examination of this cover and I agree with Dr. Chase that the cover is genuine in every respect.

IN CONCLUSION

I would like to mention that I do not mean to imply that every stamp and cover that I describe or illustrate in these Service Issues are absolutely genuine in my opinion. It is possible that I may not have seen or examined an item but described it because it was unusual and I assumed it was genuine. In some cases I might describe a certain item and yet have some suspicion regarding it, hoping perhaps that someone would call to my attention certain evidence that would prove my suspicion was unfounded. It would be unjust to cast any suspicion on a cover that might be genuine and very valuable unless I was in possession of facts to prove my opinion. I will appreciate it very much if my friends will bear the above in mind.

END OF ISSUE NO. 60

March 1, 1956

Fifth Series of 1955-1956

Tenth Issue of the Fifth Series

ASHBROOK SPECIAL SERVICE

ISSUE NO. 61 - APRIL 1, 1956 (Fifth Series - 1955-1956)

A NEW BOOK

3¢ 1861

A new booklet entitled, "The PAID Markings on the 3¢ U. S. Stamp of 1861" by George W. Linn, has just been received and it is a most welcome addition to my reference library. The author is the well-known editor of "Linn's Weekly Stamp News" and is one of our foremost elder collectors and philatelic students. I joined the A.P.S. in 1907 and my number is 2497. I note George was admitted just a short time previous as his A.P.S. number is 2452. George Linn knows American Philately from A to Z as well as the stamps of the world. He was in the printing business all his life, hence he not only knows how to write a book of this kind but how to have it illustrated, printed and bound. For some years he searched for every example he could locate of a 3¢ 1861 with a "PAID" cancellation. This is a most interesting study and I can recommend it in the highest terms. I do not know the price but write to "George W. Linn, HOLEY-IN-THE-HILLS, Florida."

TO LONDON IN 1846

Photograph #248 illustrates a folded letter from Baltimore to London, England via New York in June 1846. It will be noted that it is marked "PAID" with two sums, "5" over a "25" - or a total of 30¢. Last fall a correspondent in England inquired if I could give him information on a "rate" to Great Britain in the eighteen-forties whereby a person in the U. S. could prepay the postage to New York and Boston, and in addition, prepay a "rate" of 25¢ to Britain. In reply, I informed him that I knew of no such a rate, that there was no law nor regulation listed in the "P. L. & R." editions of 1832, 1843 and 1847 whereby a letter from this country could be "prepaid" to Britain. Replying, he cited certain covers that were known to him, one of which is the cover illustrated here as #248. The following are some facts.

In the eighteen-forties, the British Cunard Line held the British mail contract for conveying mail between England and the U.S. - between the ports of Liverpool and Boston. This contract was dated June 4th, 1840. It was not until December 1847 that the Cunard Mail Steamships ran into New York. It was not until February 1849 that we had a postal treaty with Britain whereby mail from either country could be sent prepaid to destinations in the other. Mail addressed to Britain, that was not routed, was sent to Boston or New York (after 1847) and the U. S. domestic postage had to be prepaid to those cities. Placed on Cunard mail ships, a half-ounce letter was subject to a postage due of one shilling (25¢) in Britain. A person sending a letter to England could give instructions for forwarding - such as "Per Steamer Great Britain from New York," (see Photo #248) and no doubt the local postmaster had such specially

routed letters forwarded as directed.

Again referring to Photo #248, the routing on this cover is the key to the payments of "5" and "25." Instead of postage due of "1/" - a shilling - this cover has "3" due or eight pence, which indicated that this letter was not sent by the subsidized Cunard Line but by a ship of a line which did not have a mail contract and therefore the letter was subject upon arrival in England, with the "Ship Rate" of 8 pence (16¢) rather than one shilling (1/0) or 24 or 25¢ U.S.

Further, the "Great Britain" was not a ship of the Cunard Line and as mentioned above, the Cunard ships did not run down to New York until December of 1847. This folded letter is postmarked, "Baltimore, Md. JUN 6" (1846). It was a letter of not over one-half ounce and as such it was subject to domestic postage of 5¢ to New York (under 300 miles - Baltimore by the mail route at that time was 186 miles from New York). But what about that extra payment of 25¢ at Baltimore? This is a very interesting feature and I recently learned that this was a private charge imposed by certain non-contract British steamship lines for conveying letters from New York or Boston to England. For example, a certain British S.S. Line claimed that at one time that it conveyed three times as many letters across the Atlantic as the subsidized Cunard Line, yet it received only 2 pence, (ship fee) on outgoing letters, and the same on inbound, in comparison to the heavy subsidy paid Cunard, and in consideration of this inequality that they charged the U. S. forwarding post offices, 25¢ each on all mail turned over to them for conveyance across the Atlantic.

Again referring to cover #248, the writer paid the Baltimore Post Office 5¢ in postage to New York and in addition 25¢ to be paid the ship "Great Britain" to convey the letter to England. Inasmuch as this was a private charge, there is naturally no mention of any such an arrangement in the editions of the P. L. & R. of that period.

THE 1843 P. L. & R. - FOREIGN MAIL

The 1843 "P. L. & R." instructions for the handling of foreign mails were briefly as follows - (Chapter 17) Sec. 112 - provided a letter placed in the mail to be sent to a U. S. seaport and thence by a ship to a foreign country had to have the U. S. domestic postage prepaid. Sec. 113 provided, Postmasters at seaports to receive foreign addressed letters and to postmark them with date of reception. Sec. 114 gave instructions to the seaport postmaster regarding the placing of such mail on ships in his port ready to sail. Chapter 19, Sec. 135, was as follows, quote: "For every letter received by a deputy postmaster at a seaport, to be conveyed to a foreign country, there shall be paid to the deputy postmaster one cent - Act of 1825 Sec. 34." (unquote)

Thus, postmasters at seaports had the right to choose the vessel for conveyance of foreign addressed mail, unless the letter contained special directions for forwarding. For placing such mail on ships bound for foreign ports the postmasters were paid one cent.

"FOREIGN MAILS" - BOSTON- 1846-1847

Mr. Maurice C. Blake was kind enough to furnish me the following interesting data from the "Boston Almanac" for 1847, (compiled October 1846):

"BOSTON POST OFFICE

Page 163 - Mail Closes - English Mail, by Steamships on days of sailing at 12, M.

Page 164. 'Foreign Mails' - A mail is forwarded to and received from England, Via Halifax, Nova Scotia by steamers twice a month, during May-December and monthly during January-April. The FOREIGN POSTAGE on letters to any part of Great Britain, or the Continent, can be prepaid at this office." (unquote)

According to the above notice, FOREIGN POSTAGES could be prepaid on letters, but such prepayments were by private arrangement between the Boston Post Office and the ships conveying such mail. Covers which show any such prepayment at Boston surely must be very rare.

A VERY RARE 10¢ 1847 COVER

In a London sale by Harmer, Rooke & Co. on March 28-29, 1946, Lot #43 was a cover (F.L.) with a 10¢ 1847 from New Orleans on July 8, 1848, addressed to Blackburn, (Lancaster) England. The New Orleans postmark in red, the 10¢ stamp canceled with a black round grid. It was routed, "pr Steamer Via New York July 19th" (Wednesday). It was backstamped "8 - AU - 1848 - Liverpool Ship" - thus not by the Cunard Line a Liverpool ship letter - and on the face it was handstamped with the familiar British "8" or 8 pence (16¢) due. There was no New York postmark though the "Regulations" specified that such mail be postmarked with the date of receipt at the seaport. The 10¢ 1847 represented the U. S. postage to New York but there was no evidence on this cover of any payment of foreign postage. From New York to Liverpool represented a trip of 20 days for this letter, whereas Cunard ships were making the trip at that period in half the time. I make special mention of this cover because it surely is a great rarity - as it is the only record I have of a 10¢ 1847 cover forwarded to Britain as a "Ship Letter" with 8 pence due at destination.

THE S. S. GREAT BRITAIN

Again referring to Photograph #248, and the routing by the "S. S. Great Britain." This was a very famous British iron steamship owned by a very famous British steamship company, viz., "The Great Western S. S. Co." The "Great Britain" was the first large steamship to be fitted with a screw propeller and at her launching in 1843, Prince Albert was present. In July of 1845 she started on her maiden voyage to New York. In September 1846, three months after she carried cover #248 back to England, she ran hard aground off the coast of Ireland and remained there the winter of 1846-1847, after which she was refloated and refitted. The remarkable thing about this famous old ship is that the hulk is still in existence a century after she carried cover #248 from New York.

In the current March issue of the "National Geographic Magazine" is an article about the "Falkland Islands" and on page 403 is a picture with this caption, quote: "Great Britain, one time Queen of Ocean Liners, lies grounded in Sparrow Cove - This 322 foot steamer launched at Bristol in 1843, was a pioneer iron ocean-going ship. For decades she carried emigrants to Australia. In 1832 she was converted to a three-masted sailing ship, worn out engines were removed and the hull was sheathed in wood. Four years later she limped into Stanley after being partly dismasted in a gale off Cape Horn. For 50 years the vessel remained moored in the inner harbor as a wool and coal storehouse. The Great Britain was towed to Sparrow Cove in 1936 and sunk in six feet of water. Today rock shags with big webbed feet stroll the deck where Queen Victoria once walked." (unquote)

SHIP LETTERS TO BRITAIN - 8d DUE

I would like very much to see and record covers from the U. S. to Britain in the eighteen-forties which show a payment of U. S. postage and the 25¢ private carriage charge and which were rated as Ship Letters with 8d due in Britain. I imagine such covers are scarce.

THE 2¢ FERRIAGE RATE TO CANADA 1851 - 1875

In the issue of this Service of Oct. 20, 1851, Issue No. 7, page 39, I discussed the border rate of 2¢ to Canada, and illustrated such a cover - a 2¢ 1869 - with photograph #27. This, a cover from Houlton, Me. to Woodstock, N. B. in April 1870. I quoted from the Boggs book, "Postal History of Canada" as follows: "On the 10th of June 1851 the United States agreed to a rate of 1d (2¢) for letters between Canada and the U. S. where the only transportation was the ferry, or a short land journey over the international boundary between the two points, an arrangement which continued until February 1, 1875. The special ferriage charge was the continuation of a practice which had been in use for many years." (unquote)

Photograph #249 illustrates a cover addressed to Woodstock, N. B. with a pair of the 1¢ 1861. The use was in June of 1862. Though the postmark is not legible I assume it was that of Houlton, Me - thus the 2¢ border or ferriage rate to Canada. This 1862 cover is the earliest cover I have ever seen showing this 2¢ rate; and also the only such cover with stamps of an earlier issue than 1869. Incidentally, I have never been able to locate a cover from Canada to the U. S. with the border rate. (Also note Service Issue #39 of June 1, 1954 and Photo #155).

OLD STAMPS NOT RECOGNIZED

In my book on the U. S. One Cent of 1851-57, Chapter XXXV in Volume 2, was devoted to the "Demonetization of the 1851-1857 Issue." In that Chapter I illustrated several covers with the well-known Philadelphia marking in two lines, "OLD STAMPS - NOT RECOGNIZED," and also a cover postmarked Chicago, Ill. with a handstamp with the same wording. A few(?) other post offices down East used handstamps on mail with the old stamps used after they had been demonetized with the same wording - some

offices simply marked or handstamped such letters "DUE 3" or "Illegal Stamp," or used a manuscript notation. Harrisburg, Pa. used a straight-line handstamp with "OLD STAMPS NOT RECOGNIZED" and such covers from that office are extremely rare. I have noted a few covers from St. Louis with manuscript notations such as "Old stamp not recognized," and "not good stamp" with, of course, "Due 3" in addition. I have a very poor record of any Boston covers, but one was from California with two 5¢ 1857. They were refused recognition and a large "10" postage due marking was handstamped.

After New Orleans was occupied by Federal troops, in the spring of 1862, letters mailed there with the old stamps were handstamped "Illegal Stamp" and "Due 3." I believe that these New Orleans covers are extremely rare.

If perchance any of my friends have "O.S.N.R." covers from other cities will they be so kind as to loan them to me so that I can record them for future reference.

In the December 1, 1955 Issue of this Service, pages 455-456 (457), I quoted an advertisement that appeared in a New York paper dated Oct. 2, 1861 regarding the exchange of the new stamps for the old, and the notice stated that six days from the date of the notice would be given to exchange the old for the new, after which, quote: "the stamps of the old issue will not be received in payment of postage on letters sent from this office." (unquote)

Strange to relate, covers with the "old stamps" are known used from New York City showing recognized uses in October, November and December 1861. I wonder why New York recognized the old stamps when other post offices thru the Eastern loyal states were refusing to receive them in payment of postage.

Photograph #250 illustrates a cover from the collection of Morris Fortgang with a 1¢ 1857 Type I from Plate 12, postmarked New York, Dec. 11, 1861. Incidentally, Mr. Fortgang has quite a nice showing of covers used at New York with the "old stamps" recognized after the supposed dates of demonetization. The stamp on this cover is tied with the red Carrier marking, illustrated as type 46XXX in Vol. 2 of my One Cent 1851-57 book, page 191. This postmark is well known on the 1¢ 1861 but this is the only example known on a 1¢ 1857, and this particular cover is listed as such in my One Cent book. The cover is a printed circular dated inside, New York, Dec. 10th, 1861. It was issued by an important New York sugar refinery of that period, and surely this was not the only circular they mailed with the "old stamp." And further, such use must have been with the knowledge and consent of the officials of the New York Post Office. Why was it recognized as late as Dec. 11th, 1861?

Mr. Fortgang has a cover to Maine from New York on Nov. 18, 1861 with a 3¢ 1861 plus a 1¢ 1857, Type V, with full recognition of the 1¢ demonetized stamps.

A MOST UNUSUAL COVER

Covers to France with payments of the "5¢ U. S. Internal" and forwarded thru England, are quite well known and were used prior to the U.S. - French treaty which went into effect on April 1st, 1857. Such mail was forwarded to England under the U. S. - British Postal Treaty and from England to France under the terms of the Anglo-French Treaty. Postage was collected in France from the U. S. frontier, and France settled with Britain for the transmission. During 1856 and the first quarter of 1857, (this before the U. S. - French treaty, effective April 1, 1857), we have two classes of these 5¢ covers, viz., those of 1856 and those of the first quarter of 1857. A letter weighing not over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. in the U. S. was subject to the "5¢ U. S. internal." During 1856, if such a letter did not weigh over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes, it was taxed in France with 13 decimes or about 25¢ U. S. If over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes but not over 15 grammes, the postage due was 26 decimes, or about 50¢ U. S. Thus the total postage on a letter to France in 1856 of over $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. but not over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. totaled 55¢. Britain and France concluded a new treaty in September of 1856 and as far as I am aware, certain provisions of it became effective on or about January 1st, 1857. At least sections with reference to such mail from the U. S. as we are discussing. Rates were reduced as of that date (?) and instead of a letter of not over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes being taxed 13 decimes, the postage due was 8 decimes (15¢) and 16 decimes if over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes but not over 15 grammes. Such mail, as per the September 1856 treaty had a special marking - "G. B. - 1 F - 60 C." On numerous occasions in the past I have mentioned this marking which was British applied. Please refer to Photo #211 in the June 1st, 1955 Issue of this Service. Here was a cover of February-March 1857 of 2 x 5¢ with 16 decimes due in France with the "G.B." marking. This cover weighed slightly over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. but not over 15 grammes in France. (See pages 403-404 for an analysis of this cover, which was Lot #179 in the Waterhouse sale of June 27, 1955. Sale price 70 pounds or \$196.00). Photo #194B also shows a 5¢ "G.B." cover of February 1857 with due of "8" decimes, whereas 5¢ covers 193A - 193B, 194A and 194C show French dues of 13 decimes. And now for a most unusual cover.

Photograph #251 illustrates a cover forwarded during the treaty period, viz., on Sep. 22, 1857 from Providence, R.I. with 5¢ paid by a V.P. of 1¢ 1857, Type II - Plate 2, plus a 3¢ 1857 Type I to Paris, France. This cover has the "G.B." marking and the French due of "8" decimes. It should have been prepaid at the rate of 15¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz., under the terms of the treaty, or rated as entirely unpaid with "8" decimes due, and with a debit by the U. S. to France of 3¢ (U. S. Internal). It appears it was permitted to go thru as is, and there seems to be no explanation why this was permitted. Naturally a "5¢ cover" such as this is a great rarity and possibly unique, because the 1¢ was not issued perforated until over two months after the French treaty went into effect.

Again referring to the Waterhouse cover, Photograph #211 (June 1, 1955 Issue), here we have the double "5¢ Internal" paid by four stamps, a 5¢ 1856, a 3¢ 1851 and a pair of 1¢ 1851, an extremely rare combination. Compare this cover with Lot #452 in the January Caspary Sale, the latter a cover with a sheet margin H.P. of the 5¢ 1856 to pay the double

"5¢ Internal" in December 1855. A side-by-side comparison of these two covers is quite interesting.

AGAIN THE CASPARY JANUARY 1956 SALE

On page #479 of last month's issue I referred to Lot 253 in the above sale, this, a H. S. of 3 of the 1¢ 1851 from Plate One Early off cover hit three times with an embossed "NY 6" in blue. I stated that I was unaware where this marking was applied, but Dr. Arthur W. Davis assures me it was used at Lynchburg, Va. As evidence please refer to photograph of this Service No. 34. Here we have a cover with a 3¢ 1851 orange brown canceled with this marking, a cover from Richmond, Va. to Lynchburg, Va. in October of 1851.

THE 12¢ 1851 IN THE CASPARY SALE

Lot 533 was a single off cover with full margins on all four sides, in fact, this copy had parts of adjoining positions at top, left and bottom and a part sheet to right. There is no question that a 12¢ with such margins is quite the exception. This stamp was described as "superb in every respect." The sale price was \$280.00. Some price and surely a record.

Lot #523 was another full four-margin copy - the 3¢ 1851 double transfer described with "red canc." The sale price was \$250.00. In comparison Lot 522 was not quite as fine as the above two, because it did not have a wide margin at left. The sale price was \$75.00. Just a few fractions of a millimeter in a margin can mean quite a sum in dollars.

Lot 556 - a block of 8 sold at \$1,250.00 and Lot 557 was another block of 8 that sold at \$1,000.00.

12¢ 1851 BISECTS IN THE CASPARY SALE

Mr. Caspary evidently had a weakness for 12¢ 1851 bisects as there were eleven such covers in the sale, viz., seven singles, two with a 3¢ 1851, one with the adjoining full 12¢ stamp and one with the adjoining pair at left. This cover, Lot 577, was described in the January 1956 issue of this Service and illustrated by Photo #240. The sale price was \$1,600.

Lot 567 was an U.L. diagonal half tied by a round black grid to a small cover postmarked U. S. Express Mail. From New York to Providence in December 1851, thus an early use of a bisect and rare on that account. Sale price \$575.00.

Lot 568 was a triple 3¢ rate paid by a 3¢ 1851 and a 12¢ bisect - U.R. diagonal half, from New York to Providence in May 1852 - both stamps tied by the U. S. Express Mail postmark. This is quite a rare combination. The sale price was \$950.00.

Lot 569 was a similar combination, a 3¢ 1851 with a L.L. diagonal half from Trenton, N.J. to Lancaster, Pa. Because the condition was not

superb, this cover sold at \$190.00. To present day collectors it is not rarity that counts the most, but condition. This is not as it should be.

Lot 570 was a L.L. diagonal half tied to cover by the scarce straight-line postmark in blue of "Sonora, California (above) DEC 29 1851." This cover is from the find of covers addressed to "Hon. Leonard Jarvis - Surray, Maine." The sale price was \$950.00. I have a nice record of covers from the Jarvis correspondence.

In a sale by B. L. Drew on Nov. 23, 1923, this same cover was Lot 400, and sold at \$425.00. A similar cover from the same Jarvis correspondence came up in a Kelleher sale on Jan. 6, 1922 and was Lot 85, with the Sonora postmark, Dec. 20. 1851. In spite of the Kelleher sale cover B. L. Drew described the Caspary cover as follows - some 32 years ago in his sale - quote: "Lot 400 - Half of 12¢ (36) used as 6¢, from California to Surray, Maine, stamp canc. SONORA, CALIFORNIA, DEC. 29, 1851, in two lines squarely across the stamp; ~~cancel~~ It is believed this is the only copy extant with the 1851 year date and that the cover is absolutely unique. It is safe to say that it cannot be duplicated, but this statement still remains unchallenged. It is easily the gem of the sale so far. Condition is A-No. 1." (unquote)

Lot 571 was another 12¢ bisect cover from the same Jarvis correspondence - a use from Sonora with the straight-line postmark of Feb. 11, 1852. The Bisect stamp, a L.L. diagonal, tied to cover by a "blue circular grid of rectangles." The sale price was \$800.00. It is said that Sonora suffered a great fire on June 17-18, 1852 and that the post office and all contents was destroyed which may be the reason that covers with the straight-line postmark and also the circular grid of rectangular dots are both so rare.

Lot 576 was an extremely rare cover, and no doubt unique. It was a pair of 12¢ 1851 with only the L.R. diagonal half of the left stamp, thus a payment of 18¢ - or 3 x the 6¢ California rate. The "pair" tied by the Sacramento postmark of the early 1850 period. The sale price was \$1,250.00.

Lot 575 was a L.R. diagonal half, 12¢ 1851, tied to a "VIA NICARAGUA AHEAD OF THE MAILS" cover by a postmark of "NEW YORK SHIP - OCT 10 - 12 CTS." The catalogue did not mention the year and there was no evidence of same on the cover, but the date was 1853 and this letter was brought into New York by the steamer "Star of the West." Why the postmark with "12 CTS?" This meant that 12¢ was due on this letter. And why 12¢? The answer is that the New York Post Office refused to recognize the half of a stamp, and rated the letter as an unpaid SHIP - with postage due of 10¢ plus 2¢ ship fee. The California rate was 6¢ prepaid and 10¢ unpaid.

END OF ISSUE NO. 61

APRIL 1, 1956

Fifth Series of 1855-56

ELEVENTH ISSUE OF FIFTH SERIES

Enclosed (4) photographs - Nos. 248, 249, 250 and 251.

all of the latter were not sold and used before the issue was withdrawn as of July 1, 1851. It is thus apparent why no cover with a 10¢ 1847 stamp used from Kalamazoo is known to students of Michigan postal markings or to students of long standing of the 1847 issue.

In the collection of Mr. Fred Schmalzreidt of Detroit, Mich., the recognized authority on the postal markings and postal history of his state, is a cover with a 5¢ 1847 used from Kalamazoo on June 27, 1851 to Lansing, Mich., the stamp tied by a round grid of 8 wide bars. Both the postmark and the round grid are in the same thick sticky bright vermillion ink as that of the Caspary cover. This is truly quite an interesting cover, showing a 5¢ used within a few days of the withdrawal of the 1847 stamps. Mr. Schmalzreidt also owns a face of a cover with a 5¢ 1847 used to Detroit on "Oct 2," with no evidence of year use. The stamp tied by a small round grid. The postmark and grid are in black. To the left of the stamp in faded manuscript is "OLD STAMP GOOD FOR NIX" - and to left a hand-struck "5" also in black. There is no question in my opinion, but what this item is genuine in every way. The stamp is in the proper place, i.e., in the upper right corner and the postage due "5" struck in the upper center with postmark at left. This use was undoubtedly after the invalidation of the two stamps, probably in October 1851 or more likely 1852, or even later. It is an extremely rare cover because it shows non-recognition of the 5¢ stamp with 5¢ postage due on delivery (1851-1855 - rate of 3¢ paid - 5¢ unpaid).

I make special mention of this because of all the covers that I have examined showing uses of the 1847 stamps after June 30, 1851 very few show non-recognition of the invalidated stamps. Mr. Schmalzreidt informed me that these two covers are the only ones known to him showing use of 1847 stamps from Kalamazoo, Mich.

WE DISCUSS THE 1¢ 1857 TYPE IA

The 1956 S.U.S. lists the One Cent 1857 Type IA as #19 and quotes the stamp as unused \$400.00, used \$160.00. The IA comes only from the bottom row of Plate 4, and was issued both imperforate and perforated. The imperf. is quoted at unused \$650.00 and used at \$250.00. This Type IA is the type which shows the full die design at the bottom but with the entire design cut off at the top, thus a sub-type of the rare imperf. Type I, or the 7RLE. Note the quotations for used copies, imperf. at \$250.00, perforated at \$160.00. There is no question but what these figures refer to very poor condition, and by that I do not mean condition that could be considered as "good" much less "fine" and most assuredly not as "superb."

THE ONE CENT 1851 - TYPE IA - CASPARY SALE

In the January Caspary sale, a used copy of the imperf., Type IA stamp, described as "superb in all respects" sold at \$600.00 (Lot 189). I certainly would not describe that stamp as superb in all respects because the cancellation covered the left bottom part of the type and blotted out the left scroll and ball. In my opinion, Lot 190, an imperf. IA, was a much finer copy and the sale price was only \$400.00.

Lot 191, a H. Pair described as having "an ironed out horizontal crease but fine appearance," fetched only \$380.00. Lot 193 was a cover with a single imperf. Type IA, quite a fine and desirable item that brought only \$550.00. These prices were not high, yet they were out of line with S.U.S. quotations.

THE ONE CENT 1857 - TYPE IA

In the S.U.S. under the listing of the IA perf. No. 19, is the following note, quote: "Copies of this stamp exist with perforations not touching the design at any point. Such copies command very high prices." (unquote) From that we infer that the catalogue price of \$160.00 does not refer to such copies but rather to specimens which are damaged by the perforations cutting into the top and most important, to the full design at bottom.

THE ONE CENT 1857 - TYPE IA - CASPARY SALE

In the Caspary January sale, Lot #583, was an unused block of four of the 1¢ 1857, the pair at bottom, Type IA, the upper pair, one at left Type II, the one at right, Type IIIA, total catalogue value (in singles), of \$982.50. This block sold at \$1,800.00. Perhaps you have a catalogue of that sale. If so, refer to page 141 and note the illustration of this block, which shows a horizontal row of perforations cutting right across the bottom part of the Type IA stamps. Lot 586 (page 142) was a used single of the IA, described, "lightly stained in places." Sale price \$160.00 - the same as the S.U.S. quote. Lot 587 was a used horizontal strip of three, right stamp severed and rejoined, "partially faded pen canc., right stamp blue stamped canc." Here was a very rare strip of the Type IA, wide setting of perforations - the horizontal perfs. very wide, top to bottom, leaving the full Type IA design intact and not cut into. This was described as, "an amazing strip" and that was certainly no exaggeration. The sale price was only \$425.00. Well do I remember a single copy of this "wide setting," design intact, that sold at \$2,000.00 some years ago in a Kelleher auction in Boston. (Burroughs sale - Feb. 26, 1944 - Lot 198).

The very mention of a pen canc. on a 19th Century U. S. stamp causes a prospective buyer to back away as if the item was a copperhead snake. How unfortunate, because a neatly pencanceled stamp shows the stamp design intact and not all smeared over with a heavily applied grid or un-rightly town. This aversion to pencancellations is a disease that has been handed down to present day collectors by prejudices of years long past and like the dread cancer there is no known cure for it at the present time. It is really very similar to unused stamps with gum Vs those from which the abominable sticky stuff has been removed.

SOME FURTHER COMMENTS ON THE JANUARY CASPARY SALE

Lot 598 in the Caspary sale was a block of 30 of the 1¢ 1857, Type II, from the right pane of Plate 2, (6H x IV - 57R2-57R2 - 92R2-97R2). It was described as, "A very fine and impressive block of great rarity." Surely no exaggeration. The sale price was most reasonable - only \$1,300.00. No high 1956 price on this lot. As far as a large perf. block

from this plate is concerned I suppose this item is unique.

THE 5¢ 1857 IN THE CASPARY SALE

Lot 648 was a 5¢ 1857 - Type I, Brick Red, described as unused and full o.g. It fetched \$470.00, against S.U.S. of \$250.00. Lot 649, another unused copy, full o.g. brought only \$140.00, possibly because of the description, "TRACE of thinning." Here we have a difference of \$320.00, probably because of that "trace."

5¢ 1857 - TYPE I - BRICK RED
BLOCK OF FOUR

Lot 650 was described as an unused o.g. block of three of the 5¢ 1857 Brick Red with a "matching single giving the appearance of a beautiful blk of 4." The description also stated, quote: "Excessively rare and a truly magnificent item, especially when one considers that only one real Blk of 4 is believed to exist." The sale price was \$2,500.00.

In the Hind sale of November 20, 1933, this block of three and a single was Lot 180 and was purchased by Colson, presumably for Caspary, for \$1,500.00. The description was rather brief, quote: "5¢ brick red - block of three and a single to make a reconstructed block, gum."

The 1956 S.U.S. quotes an unused block of 4 of the brick red at \$3,500.00.

If only one unused block of four of this stamp is known, one wonders why it was not in the Caspary collection? He had a world of money and he was not a new-comer to philately, but on the contrary, had been a lifelong collector. On several occasions he had an opportunity to acquire an unused block of 4 of the brick red. We wonder why he passed up such a rarity? In the Worthington sale in August 1917, Lot 153 was described as an unused o.g. block of 4 of the brick red, quote: "The stamps remarkably centered, a wonderful block and one of the gems of this collection." The sale price was only \$910.00. It is my recollection that this block was acquired by Duveen and later sold by Charlie Phillips for Duveen to Arthur Hind. In the Hind sale it was Lot 179, and was described as follows, quote: "5¢ Brick-red superb centered block of 4, gum, exceedingly rare, brilliant." (unquote) It was purchased by Philip Ward, Jr. for \$2,900.00 whom I presume sold it to Warren Sinkler of Philadelphia.

The late Eugene Klein sold the Sinkler collection in May 1940 and in that sale Klein described this block as follows, quote: "Lot 50 - (5¢ 1857, Type I - Brick Red) - unused, superb, fresh block of four, o.g., Ex-Hind collection, the rarest block of this collection and, as far as we know, unique. The sale price was \$1,850.00 and Philip Ward, Jr. was the buyer. It is no doubt in his private collection at this time. Klein thought it was unique and no doubt it is.

5¢ 1857 - TYPE I - RED BROWN
CASPARY SALE

Lot 661 was an unused block of six - of the 5¢ 1857 Red Brown (3H x 2V), described as full o.g. - excellent color, saved by scissors, clipping most of the perfs. at bottom, also "one of the largest known blks" etc. The sale price was \$1,400.00. In the worthington sale in August 1917,

this was Lot 157 and was purchased by John Kleeman for \$900.00.

Lot 662 was an off cover used block of four of the 5¢ 1857 - I - Red Brown lightly cane. by New Orleans Jan. 1, 1858, described as brilliant color. The sale price was \$300.00. In a sale by Kelloher on April 23, 1926, this same block sold at \$460.00, and in the Moody sale on October 24, 1950, it was Lot 532 and sold at \$425.00.

There were two covers in the Caspary sale with vertical strips of three of the 5¢ '57 red brown, one sold at \$500.00 (Lot 663), the other at \$320.00 (Lot 664).

THE 5¢ 1857 INDIAN RED - TYPE I
CASPARY SALE

The 5¢ 1857 Type I Indian Red is one of the most beautiful colors of the 5¢ 1857-1860 stamps, but it is listed in the S. U. S. as a minor variety of the Red Brown #28 as "HENNA BROWN - March 31, 1858" - no price for unused, only as used at \$65.00. No listing of the approximate value of an Indian on cover, nor of a strip or a block. For years I have pleaded for a major listing in the S.U.S. of this beautiful stamp, but to no avail. It is easier, perhaps, to drag a camel thru the eye of a needle than to obtain any change in S.U.S. listings. Would it not be helpful to the beginner as well as to the advanced collector and also to dealers to give some information on the Indian Red in the S.U.S. and to call the stamp by that name rather than "HENNA BROWN?" Ridgway, in none of his color names used "Henna" but he did list "Indian Red." The real Indian can well be called a rich color. He also used mahogany red.

Apparently Caspary liked this stamp very much because there were 13 lots in the sale - singles, pairs, strips, covers, etc. There was only one unused - a single - no unused pairs, no unused strips or unused blocks. Lot 665 was an o.g. copy described, "OF RICH COLOR." It was centered to top and to right and had a faint horizontal crease, yet it sold at \$160.00. The S.U.S. quotes a used copy at \$65.00, but in the Caspary sale, Lot 666 was a single off cover described as, "lovely copy, nice color, lightly cane., and perfectly centered." The sale price was \$410.00. The illustration of this stamp does not show what I would call perfect centering.

Lot 670, a used V.Pair off cover, sold at \$230.00.

Lot 671, a used H.S. of 3 off cover, sold at \$200.00.

Lot 673, a single on cover to Spain, sold at \$270.00.

Lot 675, a cover to France with a V.S. of 3 sold at \$600.00.

The variation in prices of these items, was doubtless due to (1) condition and (2) richness of color.

THE 5¢ 1857 - TYPE I - BROWN
CASPARY SALE

The S.U.S. quotes the 5¢ 1857 Type I, brown, as unused \$55.00 - used \$20.00, on cover at \$32.50, a pair at \$45.00, a strip at \$70.00 and a block at \$850 unused and \$750.00 used.

In the Caspary sale two unused singles sold at \$45.00 and \$57.50. An unused V.P. sold at \$200.00, and an unused H.S. of four at \$440.00. Lot 682 was an unused block, sale price \$1,550.00, and another block sold at \$925.00.

Lot 690, a single on cover to Spain described as very fine, realized \$170.00. In comparison Lot 691 was also a single on cover to Spain, with sale price \$50.00.

Lot 694 was a cover to France with three H.Pairs, a 2 x 15¢ rate, and quite an attractive cover. It sold at \$300.00.

THE 5¢ 1857 - TYPE II - ORANGE BROWN

CASPARY SALE

Lot 692 was a block of 32 (8H x 4V) of the 5¢ 1857 - Type II Orange Brown - unused - full o.g. This from the top right part of the right pane 3R2 to 10R2 and 33R2 to 40R2 - a most remarkable item. The sale price was \$1,300.00.

Lot 702 was described as an off cover used H.S. of 3 of the O.B. canc. by "New York JUL 16 1861." Sale price \$300.00. I regard this as quite an exceptional item as genuinely used copies of the orange brown are indeed scarce. This color did not make its appearance until May 1861(?) and the 1857-1860 stamps were demonetized, starting the latter part of the following August. This particular strip with a New York postmark came from the Eagle collection which was sold by Morgenthau on April 4 to 10 inc., 1923, (Lot 694). I believe the sale price at that time was \$105.00. I have a photograph of this remarkable strip that I made in 1923.

Lot 703 was a cover with a single tied by a New York p.m. of "Aug 20" (1861) to Halifax. This is a very desirable cover. The sale price was \$280.00.

Lot 704 was a cover with a single 5¢ 1857 orange brown tied by a red grid and black New York p.m. of "JUL 31" (1861) to Spain. Sale price \$520.00.

To show the difference in prices, there was a similar cover in a sale by Harmer Rooke & Co. on Dec. 13th 1949 with a 5¢ O.B. used from New York to Spain on the same day, "JUL 31" 1861. It was Lot #111 in the Harmer Rooke sale and it brought only \$50.00. Imagine!! I examined that cover before the 1949 sale and was convinced the cover and color of stamp was genuine in every way. Apparently both of the covers were from the same New York business firm. Both stamps were centered the same, i.e., to right, indicating both may have come from the same sheet. Both stamps were canceled by New York red grids, but the Caspary cover was in addition, just barely tied by the New York postmark. I suppose this made a difference of \$470.00. Something to think about.

THE 5¢ 1857 - TYPE II - BROWN

CASPARY SALE

The S.U.S. quotes a block of 4 of the Type II Brown at \$200.00 unused, and \$300.00 used. The Caspary sale had three unused blocks, one very fine

which realized \$390.00. The sale did not have a used block. The fact is that used blocks of the Brown, Type II, are exceedingly rare, and I doubt very much if the S.U.S. quote of \$300.00 reflects the real scarcity.

Lot 718 was a cover with a H. Pair and a single used to France from New Orleans on Jan. 28, 1861. Louisiana seceded from the Union on Jan. 26, 1861 and joined the Confederacy on Feb. 4, 1861, thus this was a use during the short period when the state considered herself an "Independent State." However, the Federal Government at Washington took no such a view and regarded the state as one in rebellion. The sale price was \$370.00 because of the date of use.

THE HENRY HILL BOOK
THE UNITED STATES FIVE CENT STAMPS OF 1856-1861

I note that Mr. Hill's book was reviewed by George Sloane in his column in "STAMPS" of April 28, 1956 with a closing paragraph from which I quote as follows:

"The perforated five cent stamps are well covered and among other features there is a list of the various shades in 'their earliest usages.' The 5¢ brick red is dated 'October 6, 1858,' but the author was unaware that a cover exists in the Hollowbush collection showing usage of a 5¢ brick red at New Orleans April 6, 1858, six months earlier than his chronicle." (unquote). That statement is not true, because Mr. Hill knows all about the Hollowbush cover, which in my opinion, is a rank fake. I gave the complete history of this cover in the Service Issue of December 1, 1952 and furnished photograph #64 of it.

THE 10¢ 1857 IN THE CASPARY SALE

The 10¢ 1857 Type I, unused, is priced in the S.U.S. at \$500.00. Lot 720 in the Caspary sale sold at \$825.00. A used copy lists at \$60.00, thus quite a wide spread between used and unused. The 10¢ green stamps of 1855-1857 were printed from a fine quality of green ink and pen and lightly applied thin black or colored cancellations seem to be rather easy to remove, and to remove them without much of a trace. I merely mention this as a warning, because, before I would pay a big price for an unused Type I or a Type IV, I would have to be very positive the stamp had never been canceled.

Lot 721, a cover with a Type I, single - 91R1, with sheet and center line to left, sold at \$230.00. This was beautifully tied by the postmark of SANTA ROSA Cal. (S.U.S. \$75.00).

Lots 722 and 723, were two covers with H.S. of four Type I from New Orleans to Mexico. The former brought \$600.00, and the latter \$700.00. Two very rare and remarkable covers from the famous Hargous correspondence.

Lot 728 was a cover from the same find with a H.S. of six of the 10¢ '57 Type II - a marvelous cover, the sale price \$550.00.

The 10¢ 1857 Type III is priced by the S.U.S. unused at \$60.00. Lot 729 was a single described as unused o.g. fresh and centered. It sold at

\$210.00. Quite some price.

Lot 734 was a 10¢ 1857 - block of four, described as unused, full o.g. - two Type IV and a II and III. Sale price \$2,500.00.

SOME 10¢ 1857 - Type IV
CASPARY SALE

Lot 735 was a single 10¢ 1857 described as Type IV - 55L1, recut only at bottom. (S.U.S. \$125.00) It sold at \$260.00. No doubt the "red town" and fine centering made this an outstanding copy.

Lot 737 was another single - recut only at top - 65L1 - sold at \$230.00 (S.U.S., \$110.00).

Lot 738 was described as six 10¢ 1857 on a piece of cover used from Trenton, N.J. consisting of a H.S. of 5 with two Type IV and four Type II. This item brought \$600.00.

Lot 740 was a Hargous cover with a H.S. of 4, one Type IV and three Type III. Sale price \$480.00.

THE 10¢ 1857 TYPE V
CASPARY SALE

I thought unused blocks of the Type V in the sale realized excellent prices, for example -

Lot 743 - block of 9 - 3 x 3	\$320.00
Lot 744 - block of 12 - 4H x 3V 1...	400.00
Lot 745 - block of 15 - 5H x 3V	270.00

Lot 758 was a Hargous cover, with a H.S. of seven (7) of the 10¢ 1857, Type V - New Orleans to Mexico - a most remarkable cover which cost some unknown the sizeable sum of \$850.00. I believe this is a record price for a 10¢ 1857 Type V cover.

We will discuss the balance of the sale in a future issue.

END OF ISSUE NO. 62

MAY 1, 1956

Fifth Series of 1855 - 1856

Twelfth and final issue of the 5th Series

No photographs
accompany this
Issue.

ASHEROOK SPECIAL SERVICE

ISSUE NO. 63 - JUNE 1, 1956 (Sixth Series - 1956-1957)

AGAIN WE DISCUSS THE CASPARY 10¢ 1847 COVER
POSTMARKED "KALAMAZOO MIC - JAN. 26"
Lot 152 Caspary Sale - Jan. 16, 1956

Photograph #245 of the March 1, 1956 Issue of this Service illustrates this cover which was purchased by Ezra Cole acting as agent for a valued friend of mine of many years, and incidentally, a subscriber to this Service.

In my March Issue, I mentioned this cover for the first time, (pages 477-478), with comment in part as follows, quote: "Among the 10¢ 1847 covers in the Caspary sale was one that I considered especially interesting, the 10¢ tied by a red square grid quite similar to the one used at that period at New York City. xxxxx I was quite intrigued with this cover because never had I run across a square grid of this type used on 1847 stamps at any other office outside of New York City. All three markings on this cover are in a bright vermillion." I regret to state that this statement was in error, and I corrected same in my Issue of May 1st last, page 494, by stating, quote: "The fact is that the postmark and the rate marking "10," are in a bright vermillion, but the square grid on the stamp is in an orange red." (unquote)

In the Caspary sale, this cover was described as follows, the underlining for emphasis being mine, quote: (Lot) "152 - 10¢ black, part sheet margin at right, margins other sides, (faintly creased before being affixed). Tied by very attractive strike of red diamond grid to small, neat cover 1850 to Lockport, N.Y., bearing beautiful strikes in BRIGHT RED 'Kalamazoo Mic, Jan 26' and '10' - very pretty cover." (unquote)

I wish to call particular attention to two features of the above description, viz - (1) the stamp was described "faintly creased before being affixed" - and (2) the grid was described as "red diamond grid" but the postmark and "10" strikes were described as beautiful strikes in BRIGHT RED. Why the crease in the stamp before being affixed to the cover? Was it because the stamp was originally on another cover that had a fold running thru the stamp, and also why the diamond grid in red and the postmark and "10" in bright red?

In my May 1st Issue of this Service I stated on page 494, quote: "It is my opinion that the 10¢ 1847 was not used on that cover and therefore the cover is fraudulent so far as being a 10¢ 1847 cover showing a use of a square grid of the New York type at Kalamazoo, Mich." (unquote)

A REFUND ON THE KALAMAZOO COVER REFUSED

Based upon my examination and opinion, the buyer of this cover returned it to the firm of H. R. Harmer, Inc. of N. Y. and requested a refund of the

purchase price. Bernard Harmer referred the request to the Executor of the Caspary Estate and the request was refused. Mr. Harmer was kind enough to forward to me a photostat copy of the letter which reads as follows, quote:

"Estate of Alfred H. Caspary
Fifty-Two Wall Street
New York 5

May 9, 1956

H. R. Harmer Inc.
6 West 48th Street
New York (36)

Attention of Mr. B. D. Harmer

Dear Sirs:

I have your letter of April 30th, 1956, with respect to Lot 152 of Sale Two in the Series of sales disposing of the stamp collection of the late Alfred H. Caspary.

I understand that the purchaser of this particular item is now seeking to return the item and obtain a refund of the purchase price paid for it on the ground that, while the stamp itself is genuine, it did not originate on the cover to which it is now attached.

The terms of the sale provided a procedure by which a purchaser could raise the issue of authenticity and, in the event of an adverse opinion, obtain a refund. The purchaser of this particular item at Sale Two did not avail himself of this procedure. Under these circumstances, I cannot agree to a cancellation of this sale and a refund of the purchase price.

The estate proposes to abide by the terms of the various sales in all respects and expects that purchasers will also abide by these terms. This is the only way in which an orderly disposition of this stamp collection can be effected.

Very truly yours,

(Signature not legible)
Executor"

(unquote)

CONDITIONS OF SALE

In the front of the H. R. Harmer, Inc. catalogue of the January 1956 Caspary sale, under "Authenticity" is the following, quote:

"V. - Each lot is sold as genuine but when in the opinion of any competent

authority acceptable to H. R. Harmer, Inc. the lot is declared otherwise, the purchase price will be refunded in full, provided that such claim is received by H. R. Harmer, Inc., within a period of twenty one days from the date of the auction." (unquote)

It is my understanding that the above means that if an item is questioned an "extension" will be granted, but that a "claim" or a "request" for further time to investigate must be made within 21 days from the date of the auction.

In this case, this cover was never questioned at the time of the sale, so far as I am aware, by Ezra Cole or his principal, the buyer, or by anyone else connected with the sale, therefore, it never occurred to the buyer to question the authenticity of the cover much less to enter a "claim" or to request an extension, within the 21 days time. Was this not a cover sold as genuine, and was it not from the great Caspary collection and wasn't Alfred Caspary a great philatelic student who would not be expected to have any questionable items in his collection?

HERE ARE FACTS

I questioned the cover when I first received the catalogue and noticed the illustration and when I learned that Mr. X was the buyer I had him send the cover to me for examination. My impression was that my suspicion was not enough well founded and that there was a possibility that the cover might be genuine and pending a further investigation I signed the cover on the back as "genuine in all respects." I made a photograph which I used as #245 in my March 1st Service Issue. I refer readers to my remarks in that Issue and the memo that I inserted at the conclusion of the issue that because I described a cover or stamp in an issue must not always be construed that I considered the item as genuine. I referred directly to this faked Caspary Kalamazoo cover. During February and early March I continued my investigation of the cover and about the middle of March I again had my friend forward the cover to me so that I could make enlarged photographs in color of the stamp with its New York diamond grid, the postmark and the rate marking "10." I don't see how anyone who examines this evidence in color could possibly believe that the 10¢ stamp was actually used on this stampless cover. With this and all the other evidence I had accumulated in the elapsed six weeks, I reversed my original decision and declared the cover as originally a stampless to which some faker had affixed a 10¢ 1847 stamp which had previously been used and canceled at the New York Post Office.

AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In my May 1st 1956 Service Issue, I discussed this Kalamazoo cover at quite some length but I failed to state at that time, that when I first examined this cover around the first of February I pronounced it as genuine, but that later in March, I reversed my original opinion. It appears that Mr. Bernard Harmer blames me for not mentioning to him in our correspondence that I had originally authenticated the cover (in February) and later (in March) had reversed my opinion. Perhaps it is a crime if one fails to be right 100 times out of 100 but I am only human and have no such an illusion

that my opinions are always perfect. I am, therefore, pleased to acknowledge my original error. However, my reversal was actually confirmation of my original suspicion.

THE HARMER POSITION

For the record I am quoting the following letter from Mr. Bernard Harmer to Mr. X, the principal who purchased the cover thru his agent Mr. Ezra D. Cole, quote:

"Mr. _____

22nd

May

1956

Dear Mr. _____

I have now received a formal reply from the Executor of the Estate of Alfred H. Caspary and enclose a copy herewith.

I feel equally that, as agents between the Executor and the purchaser, our obligation is no more than that of the Executor, namely to abide by the Conditions of Sale and accept back any items returned in accordance with these conditions.

I regret that this matter has occurred but I do not feel that the fault is ours.

It is noted that Mr. Ashbrook has, since the item was sold, stated that 'the cover is GENUINE' and then apparently reconsidered his opinion in the light of further evidence, most of which I think it will be agreed is of a negative basis.

No mention of this changed opinion is found in Mr. Ashbrook's 'Special Service,' nor in his or your letters to me, a situation which I feel somewhat unsatisfactory.

It would seem that the delay, which has prevented an automatic refund, rests elsewhere and under these circumstances the responsibility for the loss, if any, that might occur, does likewise.

Very truly yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.
(signed) B.D. Harmer
Director."

(unquote)

AGAIN MY ERROR

I quote in part from a letter to me from Bernard Harmer, dated 22nd May 1956, "As you will see from my letter to Mr. _____, I have now noticed that the cover was obviously sent to you, was passed by you and then subsequently turned down after you obtained further information, although as I

mentioned in my letter, such information as there is is of a negative nature and in effect states not so much that the cover is bad but rather that it is unlikely that it is good.

Nowhere in any correspondence to me and nowhere in your 'Special Service' bulletins did you admit that you had previously passed the cover and later changed your opinion upon it. The absence of this advice to me naturally made me feel that although Mr. _____ had failed to return the item within the appropriate time, there was some obligation on our part due to the cover being misdescribed if in effect it is bad. I would naturally have felt far less liable if I had known at the beginning that this cover had been passed by as eminent an authority as yourself and I feel that you knew that I would have felt that way about it and consequently did not mention it.

I hope therefore you will forgive my pointing out that I don't feel that you have treated this matter fairly from my point of view and I am rather unhappy over this situation. I naturally have no objection to your writing in your 'Special Service' any comments you like about items sold by ourselves or by London but I do feel that when you do write such comments they should not be part of the story but the whole of it, even though when so doing it shows an error of opinion equally on your part as on the part of the auctioneer.

I believe that no matter to whom you talk you know that I and Harmer's have a moral standard of dealing which is unapproachable. We do our best to treat everyone fairly, to be open and above-board in any transaction that takes place and I think such correspondence and conversations as you and I have had have shown this in every way. In this instance however, I feel you did not reciprocate but hid a part of the story because it reflected on your previous opinion. This left me rather unhappy.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.
(signed) Bernard
Director"

(unquote)

AS THE CASE NOW STANDS, the buyer of the faked Kalamazoo cover is holding the bag to the extent of \$420 plus Cole's 5% commission, and plus my fee or approximately \$450.00. And all because Mr. X failed to enter a claim within 21 days of the date of the auction. Suppose this had been some item in the sale that sold at \$2,000.00 or \$5,000.00 or \$10,000.00. It therefore appears that a buyer at an auction sale must bear in mind that he will be held strictly to the terms of the sale regardless of whether the sum involved is \$100.00, \$400.00, \$4,000.00 or more.

Because such a situation could result in a very serious loss, I have gone into much detail in giving all the facts in relation to this case. If I have failed in any respect I will gladly correct any omission of fact in a future issue. Personally I think it is serious business when a buyer at a philatelic

an auction sale acquires an item described as genuine, and later finds that it is fraudulent, and is then unable to recover his purchase price. The burden of proof as to genuineness should not rest with the buyer but rather with the seller. It most assuredly should not be up to the buyer to prove that the property of the seller is fraudulent, but rather the obligation of the seller to prove that the item is genuine, if a question arises and there should be a sensible time limit. I remember a case where a cover that had been sold at a New York auction was submitted to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation in January. A report was not forthcoming until the following May.

THE 12¢ 1857 IN THE CASPARY JANUARY 1956 SALE

Lot 762 was described as an unused block of 16 (4 x 4) of the 12¢ 1857, and Lot 763 was an unused block of 24, (8H x 3V), "Brilliant, mint and fresh, etc." The former sold at \$875.00 and the latter at \$900.00. As is well known, the 12¢ 1857 comes from two different plates, viz., No. 1 and No. 3. As far as known, no stamps were ever issued from a Plate 2. Plate No. 1 was made in 1851 and Plate No. 3 in 1860. In my opinion, unused mint blocks are far more rare from Plate No. 1 than from Plate No. 3, the reason being quite obvious, because when the Civil War broke out in 1861 and the "old stamps" were demonetized post offices thruout the country were stocked with 12¢ perforated sheets of stamps from Plate 3, and it was these that were returned to Washington and became the "remainders." The S.U.S. draws no distinction in catalogue values between the stamps from the two plates, but quotes a single unused 12¢ 1857 - #6, at \$16.00 - a pair at \$37.50 and a block of four at \$125.00. These prices may apply to items from Plate 3, but I do not think they could possibly apply to such items from Plate No. 1. I mention stamps from the two plates because nothing was stated in the Caspary catalogue as to whether the blocks were from Plate #1 or #3. Quite a difference. In my opinion, the Caspary showing of the 12¢ 1857 left much to be desired, so far as this sale is concerned.

THE 24¢ 1860 IN THE CASPARY SALE

Three unused blocks sold as follows:

Lot 776 described as o.g. brilliant - fresh, exceptionally well centered, realized \$525.00 against S. U. S. quote of \$300.00.

Lot 777 described as a block of 4, with imprint and plate number at left, a few irregular perfs, one stamp with a thin spot, etc., sold at \$550.00. Of course a 24¢ 1860 single with imprint is quite a rarity and a block of four even more so. This reminds me of Lot 197 in the Worthington sale in August 1917 which was described as an unused block of 12 (3 x 4) from left side of sheet with imprint and Plate No. 1 - o.g. "very fine, a very rare block." The sale price was only \$150.00, but a dollar had a lot of value in those days.

Lot 779 was described as a brilliant mint block of 9 - minor faults, sold at \$550.00.

Lot 780 was described as a brilliant mint block of 12 - (4H x 3V) with minor faults, realized \$1,500.00.

Lot 781 described as a brilliant mint block of 20 - (4H x 5V) with minor faults, sold at \$3,100.00. It was stated, quote: "A wonderful block, one of the largest units known of this stamp and a grand show piece." I have a record in my files of a mint block of 40 described as "superbly centered."

THE 24¢ 1860 RED LILAC

Lot 782 in the Caspary sale was described as follows:

"24¢ RED LILAC, block of four. Unused, centered to left. Only a few blocks exist of this great color rarity and this is as fine as any (37B) - \$2,500.00" (unquote). The sale price was \$2,000.00, and the buyer was Ezra Cole. In my opinion, no 24¢ 1860 stamps were ever issued to the public in the color of RED LILAC. It is my opinion that the 24¢ 1860 Red Lilac listed in the S. U. S. as 37B, is nothing more than a trial color and in the same class as other trial colors that were never regularly issued, such as the 3¢ 1861 Lake No. 66 and 66A, etc. Such a notation should be made in the S. U. S. if the listing of the Red Lilac is continued. Innocent buyers should not be misled into assuming that this is a rare color that was issued to the public. In this connection, Luff in his book on 19th U. S. (1898) called the color "DULL REDDISH LILAC" (page 77) and commented as follows regarding it, quote: "I am not certain that the twenty-four cents in dull reddish-lilac was ever issued as a stamp. I have seen copies, both imperforate and perforated in old collections of proofs and essays and I am inclined to think it belongs in that category rather than among stamps. I have, however, no positive evidence to confirm this belief." (unquote)

I believe these lines first appeared in print along about 1898 or possibly a few years earlier, and that later research work definitely disclosed the source of the trial color "24¢ 1860 Red Lilac." It is my belief that such items reached the public thru a Boston dealer of many years back by the name of F. Trifet. This man was given a job of making up for display a collection of U. S. postage stamps for the Post Office Department and in payment for his services and the stamps he furnished he was given sheets of stamps from Government files, such as the "remainders" of the 1857-1860 issues - sheets of stamps which had been returned to Washington after the "old stamps" had been demonetized. Also other material. It appears that from the Government files, Trifet obtained a sheet or a part of a sheet of the "rare" 24¢ 1860 Red Lilac. No doubt he broke up the greater part of his sheet (or piece of a sheet), into singles but apparently he did keep a block of nine and possibly a block of four. It is the former with which we are concerned. From what evidence I have, one of the stamps in the block of nine became detached and found its way into the Worthington collection, while the block of eight was acquired along about 1916 by Joseph Lozier. When the Worthington collection was sold in August 1917, Lozier acquired the Worthington single and replaced it in his block. This was the only "red lilac" in the Worthington sale. It was Lot 202 (single) and sold at \$260.00 (August 21, 1917). Joe Lozier sold his "block" thru Philip Ward, Jr. to Arthur Hind and at the time of the transaction, according to Ward, it was a block of 8 plus the single, making a reconstructed block of 9.

In the Arthur Hind Sale, of Nov. 20, 1933, there were four singles of the "24¢ Red Lilac" - all described as "NO GUM - OFF CENTER AS USUAL S.U.S. \$350.00". These sold as follows: Lot 215, \$60.00 - Lot 216, \$50.00 - Lot 217, \$45.00 and Lot 218, \$45.00. In the Hind sale, Lot 219 was described as follows: "24¢ Red Lilac, block of 6, probably unique - Est. \$3,000.00." It was purchased by Philip Ward, Jr. for \$2,000.00 for the account of Warren Sinkler of Philadelphia, (according to data furnished me by Ward).

It appears that Hind cut off the top pair into two singles. When the Sinkler collection was sold by Eugene Klein on May 17, 1940, the block of six was sold in three lots as follows:

Lot 64 - Block of Four - part o.g. at \$300.00
Lot 65 - Single part o.g. at \$60.00
Lot 66 - Single part o.g. at \$100.00

The three lots were sold to Ezra Cole, probably for account of Caspary. In the January Caspary sale, Ezra Cole paid \$2,000.00 for the block of four, which I suppose was the Sinkler block. In a sale by J. C. Morgenthau on Oct. 15 to 21, 1924, Lot 513 was described as follows, quote: "24¢ Red Lilac (52B), block of 4, o.g. remarkably fine for this stamp and as far as we know the only block with original gum in existence, a great rarity." (unquote) I have no record of the sale price. In a sale by E. N. Costales, "No. 28" of the Colonel Green collection, held Oct. 28 - Nov. 1, 1946, Lot 90, was described as, quote: "24¢ red lilac (52B), block of four, o.g., fine and fresh, perfs barely touch at left but this is of little significance as only one other block is known to exist. A great rarity." (unquote). The sale price was \$520.00. I rather imagine this was the above described block in the Morgenthau sale.

In the Lester G. Brookman book on 19th U. S., the author stated in Vol. 1, page 193, quote: "The stamp exists in lilac and gray lilac while a red lilac is known in unused condition only. The red lilac almost certainly is from a trial color sheet and should be considered as a finished trial color proof and not as a stamp." (unquote)

THE 24¢ 1860 RED LILAC IMPERFORATE

Luff stated as quoted above that he had seen copies of the 24¢ red lilac both perforated and imperforate.

The S.U.S. apparently does not list the trial color 24¢ Red Lilac in imperforate condition as it is my impression that #37C refers to the 24¢ Lilac, imperforate.

In a sale by J. M. Bartels & Co., held Jan. 8-9-10, 1925, Lot #? was described as a "24¢ 1851" imperforate in the "correct reddish lilac shade with fine margins on all four sides, a very fine copy of this rarity #37 - \$200.00." The sale price was \$110.00.

In a sale by Harmer Rooke & Co. - No. 8 of the Colonel Green collection, held May 27-28, 1943, Lot 128 was described as follows, quote: "24¢ red lilac,

imperf on stamp paper. Slight tear at left. Shows center line at right and next stamp at top." (unquote) The sale price was \$27.00. In the same sale Lot 127 was described as an unused copy of the 24¢ 1860 Red Lilac (perf.) with description as follows: "Little extra margin at right, fine color, almost full o.g. - signed 'J.N.L.' (Luff) - Very scarce." The sale price was \$35.00.

A 24¢ 1860 RED LILAC "USED"

Back in 1923 a collection owned by a Britisher named Leon Adutt was sold by J. C. Morgenthau in New York. In that sale was listed a "used" copy of the "24¢ red lilac," with a "red grid cancel." I never saw this item but inasmuch as the 24¢ red lilac, in my opinion, was never issued, the red grid on this copy is no doubt fraudulent. In past years many efforts were made to "prove" that many proofs, trial colors, "samples" of work etc., etc., were "stamps," that is, were items that were actually regularly issued to the public thru the U. S. post offices. For example, note the description by J. C. Morgenthau of the Leon Adutt "used" 24¢ 1860 red lilac in the Morgenthau sale, held June 26-27, 1923, quote: "Lot 365 - 24¢ red violet (52B), red grid cancellation, very fine, a great rarity and as far as we know, the only used copy of this very rare stamp, and especially valuable as it settles the standing of the 24¢ in this shade." (unquote) Morgenthau should have known better to put such stuff in his catalogue. When the Zareskis read such rubbish about their artistic work they surely must get quite a laugh, especially if it is a certificate by some high rated(?) Expert Committee such as the Royal of London or the P. F. of New York.

According to the data that I have on this Adutt copy it was acquired at the sale or soon after by Warren Colson who sold it to a Baltimore collector by the name of F. R. V. Williams. Later, the Williams collection was sold to the late Spencer Anderson who in turn sold the copy to the late Harry L. Jefferys of Ardmore, Pa.

THE 24¢ 1860 "IMPERFORATE"

Lot 783 in the Caspary sale was described as an unused copy of the 24¢ lilac, imperforate, S. U. S. 37C - catalogue \$300.00 - a "top sheet margin" copy. Nearly full o.g., fresh, very fine but for negligible tiny thinnings." This sold "to order" for \$180.00.

THE 30¢ 1860 - CASPARY SALE

Lot 806 was described as an unused o.g. block of four with imprint and plate "No. 1 P" at left. The sale price was \$700.00.

Lot 807 - an unused o.g. block of nine with sheet at left sold at \$400.00.

Lot 808 was described as an unused full o.g. block of 16 - 4 x 4 - "brilliant fresh, excellent color and well centered." Sale price was \$1,800.00.

Lot 809 was described as an unused full o.g. block of 21, (7H x 3V), with

minor faults. It was stated it is "one of the largest unused" known. I do not seem to have any record of a larger unused block. The sale price was only \$1,050.00.

Lot 812 was a "Payen" cover from New York to Lyon, France with a 30¢-10¢ '57 Type V and a 5¢ '57 brown Type II, a very beautiful cover. The sale price was \$475.00. According to my recollection, the "Payen" covers came from a large "find" made in France in the late eighteen nineties and a large batch of covers from the correspondence were brought to this country by the late E. B. Power who for many years was the head of the New York branch of the then British firm of Stanley Gibbons, Inc.

Lot 814 was also a beautiful "Payen" cover with a vertical pair of the 30¢. The sale price \$550.00.

THE 90¢ 1860 - CASPARY SALE

Lot 815 was described as an unused, "large part o.g." block of four of the 90¢ 1860 with sheet at left with imprint and plate "No. 1 P." Minor defects. The sale price was \$1,400.00. A very rare block at a bargain price.

Lot 816 was described as an unused mint, block of nine - 3 x 3 "Brilliant and fresh - and well centered." Surely a very rare block. Sale price \$3,800.00.

Lot 817 was described as an unused mint block of 21 - 7H x 3V - "well centered" and probably the largest 90¢ block in existence. I have no record of a larger piece. The sale price was \$10,100.00.

END OF ISSUE NO. 63

June 1, 1956

Sixth Series of 1956-1957

First Issue of the 6th Series

No photographs accompany this issue.

ASHBROOK SPECIAL SERVICE

ISSUE NO. 64 - JULY 1, 1956 (Sixth Series - 1956-1957)

JUNE 15, 1857
NINETY-NINE YEARS AGO

In the City of New Orleans, ninety-nine years ago, a business firm addressed a letter to the town of Nantes, France, and attached to this folded communication, which did not weigh over $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce, 15 cents in U. S. postage, same being three 5¢ Jefferson imperforate stamps of the issue of March 1856. The addressor selected a vertical strip of three of the 5¢ and he was careful to cut the strip so that all three stamps were intact, not cut into in any place, superb margins. It so happened that the strip that he used was from the left side of a sheet of 100 and he included the full "center line" to left. Whoever it was who selected this strip must have had some artistic trait as the strip is an item of great philatelic beauty in color and impression. This folded letter was deposited in the New Orleans Post Office on June 15, 1857, ninety-nine years ago this month, (as we pen these lines) and together with other mail was forwarded to New York, where in due time it was placed aboard a mail steamship sailing direct to France. Arriving at Havre it was sent on to a firm in Nantes, France.

Last March, there was an auction sale of a collection of U. S. stamps and covers formed by a Belgian, held in Brussels and this beautiful cover with its V.S. of three of the 5¢ 1856 was offered as Lot # 527. It was purchased by Mr. Henry Hill of Minneapolis and the sale price was \$8,740.00. Although there were a number of very fine items in the sale, this ninety-nine year old gem realized the highest price of the sale. Of course, a U. S. 5¢ is no great rarity, and neither is a pair or strip or covers with such, in fact, a strip of three is quoted in the S. U. S. at only \$335.00. I am quite sure that many collectors thruout this country, as well as abroad, asked the question: "Why a price of over \$8,700.00 for such a cover?" I suppose the answer is quite simple - first, superb condition - second, more than one buyer was determined to own this cover.

THE SALE IN BRUSSELS

The collection was formed by one N. Klep Van Velthoven, who was Consul in Brussels for Venezuela - thus the name "Consul Klep." The sale was held by a Brussels dealer by the name of Willy Balasse, who publishes a monthly philatelic magazine, the "Balasse Magazine." His address is - 45a, Rue du Mida, Brussels, Belgium. If you failed to receive a catalogue or a list of the prices realized at the sale, write Balasse and enclose a dollar bill and copies will doubtless be forwarded. Mention my name if you wish. It is quite unusual to see a foreigner put together as fine a collection of 19th U. S. as this Mr. Klep, which realized a total of over \$150,000. It is to be regretted that the sale was not held in this country, so that U. S. collectors of 19th Century could have had more of an opportunity to inspect and bid for the items they desired. There were two terms of the sale that caused the majority of collectors to withhold bids, viz:

15% was to be added to the purchase price and any questionable items had to be returned within 30 days of the date of sale, with substantial proof that it was not as represented.

THE CONSUL KLEP SALE

I was well acquainted with Consul Klep by correspondence for quite a few years and he was one of the first to subscribe to my "Special Service." Years ago he requested me to address him as "Mr. Klep." He took ill more than a year ago and he passed away on the 3rd of January last. The sale of his collection was held on March 27th and 28th, 1956. Incidentally, a son resides in this country and is head of a firm by the name of "Klep & Company." His name is John P. Klep.

When I broke up the U. S. and Confederate collections of Harold C. Brooks in 1949, Consul Klep, acquired some very fine covers, also some from the fine Emmerson C. Krug collection of 19th U. S. covers. Klep liked the plating of the 5¢ New York and the One Cent 1851 and I assisted him to quite an extent in putting reconstructions together. He possessed a fine lot of the 5¢ New York and this section of his collection should have been offered in this country.

AGAIN THE 5¢ 1856 KLEP COVER

Klep submitted items to me from time to time over the years for authentication but I never knew he owned the 5¢ 1856 cover that brought the highest price among 1218 lots sold in the sale. The buyer, Mr. Henry W. Hill, flew over to the Continent to attend the sale and he brought back to American philately, not only this outstanding gem, but also another most unusual 5¢ 1857 cover which we will discuss later.

Mr. Hill recently published a very handsome and profusely illustrated book entitled, "The United States Five Cent Stamps of 1856-1861." (See page #477 of this Service - March 1956 Issue). I am pleased to present herewith Photograph No. 252, an illustration of the now famous Klep cover with its 5¢ 1856 vertical center line strip, that departed from this country ninety-nine years ago last June 22nd. I made this photograph somewhat larger than the original, but I regret to state that because the folded letter is white and because the paper of the strip is almost white, little contrast was registered between cover and strip, hence the full margins of this beautiful strip are not shown as plain as I would have wished.

A COVER WITH A STORY TO TELL

When one pays almost \$9,000.00 for a philatelic gem I believe he should have the "title examined," that is, to get all the principal facts established - what I call, make the cover tell its own story as far as it is possible.

THE STORY OF A COVER

This piece of mail was forwarded to France under the terms of the U.S.-

French Postal Treaty of 1857, which went into effect on April 1st. When this letter went thru the foreign division of the New York Post Office, the treaty had only been in effect less than three months. The New York foreign exchange postmark stamper with date of "JUN 22" and "3" at the top was new, it had never been used prior to April 1st, 1857, hence this cover should have a fresh clean "new" strike of this marking - It has. The "3" in this postmark is the U. S. credit of 3¢ to the French P.O.D. This meant that all the French P.O.D. was entitled to out of the 15¢ U.S. paid was their internal of 3¢, hence the letter was carried direct to a French port at the expense of the U.S. P.O.D., or "Amer. Pkt" (Am. Pkt). There is a round double circle French receiving postmark on face which confirms this. It is not plain but it reads as follows: "ETATS-UNIS-PAQ-AM-A--LE HAVRE-" which meant "From the United States by American Packet direct to Havre, on July 6, 1857."

This French marking shows that the letter was carried direct to Havre by "Am Pkt" and this agrees with the "3" credit in the N.Y. postmark and this "3" credit shows that it was a single rate of 15¢ that was prepaid. So far the cover itself has told us that the year of use was 1857, that it was a "single" of not over $\frac{1}{4}$ oz., or over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes in France, and that it was sent paid with a payment of 15¢. The stamps themselves are not the only evidence of prepayment nor is the "3" credit in the New York postmark, but there is another most important feature, viz., the absence of a French postage due marking. The Treaty stipulated that credit markings be applied in red (prepaid mail) and debit markings (unpaid mail) in black. In this case, and thru error, the New York marking with the credit of "3" was applied in black, but the Treaty had only recently gone into effect and a few mistakes were natural. I have noted others of a similar nature during the first year's operation of the Treaty. I lay special emphasis on this error, because a debit of 3¢, would have meant that such a letter would have been one that was not prepaid and was transmitted from the U. S. (at this period) by a British Packet to England and thence to France, our share being but our internal of 3¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. Further, as stated above, on such a piece of mail, the French postage due would have been "8" decimes, and on the face of such a letter would have been a large handstamped "8."

Thus this gem of a cover tells its own story and everything about it states, "I am genuine," and so it is, and of that there is no question.

THE ROUTE OF THE KLEP COVER

In the lower left the writer routed his letter "Per America." Ninety-nine years ago in 1857, the 15th of June fell on Monday. This was a communication addressed to the firm of "A. Garnier" in Nantes and the handwriting of the addressor is quite well known to me. I mention this because I am confident that the addressor was informed that the mail ship "America" was due to sail from either New York or Boston, a week from the following Wednesday. Mailing his letter on Monday the 15th, he was well aware that it could not reach the Eastern seaports by Wednesday the 17th, hence he knew it would probably be held for the sailing of the "America," due to sail on Wednesday the 24th. This ship was a British Mail Ship of the subsidized Cunard Line. However, when the letter reached New York it was not

held over until Wednesday June 24th, but was despatched two days earlier on Monday June 22 by an American Packet direct to Havre, France. I regret that at this writing I do not have the name of the ship that carried this letter direct to Havre, but I hope to have this data before the next issue of this Service. I imagine it was a ship of the American Havre Line. The transit from New York to Havre shows 14 days which was slow for the year 1857, but ships of the Havre Line were not noted for their speed.

THE FRENCH DOUBLE CIRCLE RECEIVING POSTMARK

"ETATS-UNIS-PAQ-AM-A" "LEHAVRE"

Although I have quite a nice record of covers to France - "DIRECT TO HAVRE", after the 1857 treaty went into effect, I seem to have very few which show the round double circle marking that was used on this cover. It appears that as early as September 1857 this round type was superceded by an eight-sided octagon type which read as follows: "ET-UNIS-SERV-AM-D" - "HAVRE" with date in center. I wonder why? If anyone can show a cover with the circular type, will they please loan it to me so that I can record same for future reference. In addition if anyone has a cover with the octagon type (Havre at bottom) with an earlier date than September 1857, please advise me with a description. Thanks.

THE CENTER LINE V. STRIP

Mr. Hill very kindly informed me that this strip is from plate positions 41R1-51R1-61R1. Congratulations to Mr. Hill for bringing another fine philatelic gem back to the land of its birth.

THE 5¢ 1857, TYPE I, RED BROWN

The S.U.S. quotes a used block of the 5¢ 1857 - Type I - Red Brown at \$500.00. No quote is given for a block of six, and no quote is given for a cover with a block of four much less for a cover with a block of six. Inasmuch as two covers are known with blocks of six perhaps such quotes might well be included.

In my first Service Issue of June 1951, I illustrated and described by Photo No. 4, a cover in Mr. Henry Hill's specialized collection of the 5¢ Jefferson with a block of six of the 5¢ 1857 perforated Red Brown, Type I, from Donaldsonville, La., to France, a double 15¢ rate, in April 1858. A most remarkable and rare cover, which is illustrated on page 44 of Mr. Hill's book.

ANOTHER KLEP COVER

Photograph No. 253, illustrates another Klep cover that Mr. Hill obtained in the Klep-Belasse Sale last March. I made this photograph a bit larger than the original. The cover shows the 35¢ rate to Switzerland by "Prussian Closed Mail" in 1859, the rate paid by the 5¢ 1857, Type I, Red Brown, in a beautiful block of six and a single. This is a buff envelope from Platteville, Wis., postmarked Jan. 2, 1859. On the back of the envelope is a New York foreign exchange postmark of Feb. 2, showing

that this piece of mail was despatched from that port on Wednesday Feb. 2, 1859 by a British Packet of the Cunard Line for Liverpool, England.

As I have stated in past issues of this Service, mail to Germany, Switzerland and other continental countries was made up into sealed bags at New York and despatched from that port by "Prussian Closed Mail" (P.C.M.). Such mail went thru England (rated by bulk weight) to Ostend, Belgium, thence to Aachen in Prussia, where the sealed bags were opened, the mail handstamped with the "Aachen" marking, rated and distributed to destinations.

By "P.C.M." the rate to Germany was 30¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., but to Switzerland it was 5¢ extra, thus 35¢. The U. S. credit to Prussia was 7¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. on letters to Germany and 12¢ on those to the Swiss States. This Klep cover shows a rather faint strike of the red "Aachen" postmark but the red "12" credit has disappeared. This cover was Lot 676 in the Klep sale and it cost Mr. Hill the tidy sum of \$2,760.00.

SERIOUS PHILATELY

When a successful, mature businessman pays a thousand, three thousand, five or ten thousand dollars for a cover I doubt if he could be classed as a hobbyist or that his investments in rare philatelic gems could be called a "hobby." Personally I despise that word and never use it. Scientific philately is no "hobby" - It is a science and large philatelic investments are not the pursuit of a hobby but rather a very serious and may I add a very pleasurable avocation. There exists a school of thought in philately who believe that outstanding gems of philately will take their place alongside of well-known and documented works of art. For example, the famous Hind British Guiana, now worth a king's ransom. And there are many other great pieces in philately which will surely assume, as time goes on, their rightful places among the world's great in philately.

AGAIN WE REFER TO THE CASPARY 10¢ 1847 KALAMAZOO, MICH. FAKED COVER

With the permission of Mr. Bernard D. Harmer, of the auction firm of H. R. Harmer, Inc., New York, I take pleasure in publishing herewith the following letter, quote:

"June 8, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thanks for your letter of June 2nd and copy of the June 1 Special Service.

Your report I feel is very factual and very fair particularly in regard to the quoting in full of the letters from the Estate and my letter to Mr. Hart.

You omitted to mention that 'the buyer of this cover returned it to the firm of H. R. Harmer, Inc.' after the Conditions of Sale permitted such

a refund.

Equally regarding your comment at the beginning of page 507, no objection is made to the length of time that is necessary for an opinion to be obtained, if the buyer has notified the auctioneer within 21 days. As long as such notification is received, the auctioneer withholds payment to the vendor and no difficulty arises.

I again have to point out that we are agents between the buyer and the seller; as such we list certain conditions which form a contract between the buyer and seller and both are required to accept these to permit transactions at auction to take place intelligently. If a vendor wanted different conditions of sale, we would refuse to offer the material; if the buyer does not adhere to the conditions or contract he naturally cannot hold the vendor or the vendor's agent responsible beyond these conditions.

The conditions of sale pertaining to the question in dispute are basically the same as they have been for years, and incidentally are far less onerous than those applying to 'Fine Art' auctions.

The very success of philatelic auctions, speaks for the fairness of the terms from the buyer's and sellers' points of view.

If you are right in your argument how would you solve the following hypothetical problem?

1956 Baden error in Caspary Sale sells for \$20,000
Certificate of genuineness from prominent Committee obtained.

1959 Lawyers announce that Caspary Estate is wound up and final donation to charity made.

1959 (later) Baden error found to be a forgery.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

(signed) Bernard D. Harmer

Director" (unquote)

In reference to the above may I remind my friends that this cover was offered by the Caspary Estate thru their agent, the Harmer firm, to be a genuine item in all respects. Regardless of the terms of sale as set forth in the catalogue, I believe the facts are as follows:

- 1) The Caspary Estate is to go to charity.
- 2) The Estate has not been settled, therefore, I suppose it would be quite a simple matter to refund the money the Estate is still holding which they received for this fraudulent item.
- 3) The attorneys for the Estate state that they will not make any refund

because they cannot afford to set a precedent. If the attorneys for the Estate cared to act in good faith it seems to me that they would grasp this opportunity to set a precedent by returning to the victim his money which does not belong to the Estate, and which the Estate received under false representation. The Estate is still liquid and has not been finally settled.

AND NOW --- FROM AN AUCTION BUYER

Also with the permission from a prominent collector, I am privileged to publish the following letter, quote:

"June 11, 1956

Dear Stanley:

I read with unusual interest your discussion of the controversy over the Caspary 10¢ 1847 Kalamazoo cover and frankly I was somewhat surprised at the final outcome.

The faker is becoming so clever today on the higher valued philatelic items that 21 days seems entirely insufficient time for the thorough research necessary for one to be certain as to validity.

If it were laboratory work only perhaps it could be done, but research on historical and documentary evidence must be collected from far and near, and little of this can be done within the three weeks time which apparently is the limit set.

Since the investing collector spawned the prosperous auctioneer of today, tragically at the expense of the one-time dealer, I think it well behooves the auctioneer to extend his views and his rules, within limits of course, to the collector who after all is creating this vast industry and subsidizing it with his cash investments.

This fantastic business has been built on confidence. It has a great potential and will continue to grow if that confidence is not abused, and if any auctioneer wishes to stabilize this industry and perpetuate it, he should broaden his views on the guarantee of his merchandise. Only in that way will he contribute to the future growth of this great hobby, rather than to its delinquency.

If such a guarantee were given to the collector with his original purchase then he could pass the same guarantee on to the auctioneer when he eventually disposes of his material. In that way the auctioneer would not have to carry this burden, and I firmly believe he should not, but it should go from one owner to the next owner through the auctioneer who is committed equally to both.

Had I been the auctioneer in the case you reviewed I would have immediately returned my commission to show my good faith and then the stigma would have been limited to the owner. That would convince the collecting public that the auctioneer was emphasizing a code of ethics common to any other merchandising.

You have rendered a splendid service in reporting this controversy to the public. I think your contribution will have much to do with the adoption of a standard code of ethics and reliability such as will encourage future collectors to continue their present extraordinary investments.

I may have such items in my collection but if they have been there for a year or years I do not expect any reimbursement, but if it were a matter of only a few days, as in the case under discussion, I would be keenly disappointed if adjustments were not made, as they would be with the sale of any legitimate merchandise.

I am seriously interested and will be happy if you will keep me informed as to how this is finally arbitrated.

With my compliments to you for your courageous and consistent struggle in behalf of a great hobby, I am,

Cordially yours" (unquote)

TO SUM UP

Here we have a case where a buyer at an auction sale paid \$420.00 for a 10¢ 1847 cover. Catalogue quotation \$100.00. Therefore, apparently something very desirable. Agent Cole never suspected anything was wrong with the cover and neither did the buyer. Was it not from the famous Caspary collection and offered as genuine in all respects? It was not until 60 days after the sale that the buyer was convinced the cover was fraudulent. He returned it to the auction firm and requested a refund of his money. The Harmer firm as agent referred the request to the attorneys for the Caspary Estate. The request for a refund was refused. As the case now stands, the buyer is threatened with quite a loss, thru no fault of his own except, that he failed to file a claim within 21 days of the date of the sale or request an extension of time for investigation and final payment. It is my opinion that this is a bad situation and that something should be done about it.

WHAT IS THE SOLUTION?

I am sure I do not know. It is up to the reputable auction firms to find a solution. I do not think it should be up to the buyer to prove that items he buys at auctions are as represented. If material is sold as genuine surely the buyer must have some assurance he is obtaining just that.

A GENUINE ONE-QUARTER 12¢ '51 BISECT

Photograph No. 254, illustrates another cover from the Klep sale of last March. This was Lot #599 and cost the buyer \$195.50, surely a great bargain because this cover is unquestionably genuine. It was purchased by a U. S. dealer and is now in a prominent U. S. collection.

This cover came from the famous Buchanan Carroll find made in New Orleans many years ago and this cover has been well known to philatelic students

for many years, no doubt back to the time that the correspondence was found.

The cover shows no actual year use but the Canton, Miss. postmark is "JAN 16." This was, therefore, 1854 or 1855 or possibly later. The cover is a U. S. envelope of 1853 (July) and attached is a quarter corner of a 12¢ 1851, same being from the upper left.

I assume that the Post Office at Canton, Miss. ran out of 3¢ stamps, so the addressor of this stamped envelope realizing his letter was overweight, put "Charge Box 17," for any deficient payment. The Post Office clerk attached to the envelope one-fourth of a 12¢ 1851 in lieu of a 3¢ stamp and made the notation, "PAID - 6¢ BY STAMP - 1/4 of 12¢."

I believe that at one time many years ago this cover was in the collection of Dr. Carroll Chase and that he wrote an article illustrating it for a philatelic publication and that it was from this cover that the listing in the S. U. S. of #17B was made, viz: "Quarter used as 3¢ on cover" - no quotation.

THE GENEVA N. Y. FAKE

In contrast to this genuine 12¢ bisect cover there are two fraudulent items in existence, one is a cover with a black circular postmark (at left end) of "GENEVA N. Y. - 3 PAID" with date in center of "May 10," and addressed, "John S. Messerve Esq - 20 John St., New York City." To left of center is a quarter of a 12¢ 1851 - upper left corner - "tied" by a black target of four rings.

This fake has been offered by an Eastern dealer of questionable reputation to a number of prospective buyers in the last two or three years. Originally this was a stampless cover sent prepaid as the postmark indicates, viz., "3 PAID."

THE CAZENOVIA, N. Y. FAKE

Another fake one-quarter 12¢ '51 bisect cover is also in existence and was surely made by the same crook. This is a cover postmarked at right with a circular postmark in black(?) reading, "CAZENOVIA N.Y." at top and "3 PAID" at bottom with center date of "FEB 2". It is addressed to "Vernon - Oneida Co., N.Y." In the upper center is a quarter of a 12¢ 1851 - lower left corner - tied by the same four-ring target as on the above fake Geneva. It is believed that the late Harry L. Jefferys was swindled by this fraudulent item. This was also a stampless, paid by cash, cover. Jefferys wrote an article about this cover in the Collectors Club Philatelist for April 1946 and furnished an illustration of it.

END OF ISSUE NO. 64.

July 1, 1956

Sixth Series of 1956-1957

Second of the Sixth Series

Three photographs accompany this issue - 252, 253 and 254.

ASHBROOK SPECIAL SERVICE

ISSUE NO. 65 - AUGUST 1, 1956 (Sixth Series - 1956-1957)

THIRTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Back in 1921, the firm of J. C. Morgenthau & Co. of 87 Nassau Street, New York, was probably the leading philatelic auction house of that day and the Nassau Stamp Co., headed by John A. Klemann was one of the most prominent of Eastern dealers. It is my recollection that several or more years previous, the Klemann firm purchased the collection of U. S. of the Earl of Crawford, the great British collector of U. S. 19th who established the Crawford Medal for worth while philatelic research work.

On June 7, 8 and 9 - 1921, the Morgenthau firm held a sale of the Franz Herrmann collection. Herrmann was quite a well known philatelist of previous years who had passed away a year or so prior to 1921. At the time of his death his collection was in the hands of Burger & Co., New York dealers, for dispersal but his will provided that unsold portions be disposed of at auction. I have a copy of the Morgenthau sale as mentioned above and Lot 440 in that sale was an off-cover copy of the Franklin Carrier, (issued in 1851) and was described as follows, quote: "440 - 1¢ Blue Franklin (1801) with Philadelphia date cancellation in red, slightly thin. From Crawford collection - (catalogue) \$75" (unquote). The sale price was only \$21.00. I was interested to some extent at that time in the Franklin so I sent for the stamp before the sale and made a photograph, and a print is in my files at the present time. The stamp was canceled with a red Philadelphia postmark of May ?? . It was the only Franklin I had ever seen or heard of with a Philadelphia postmark struck in red.

More of the Franklin stamps were used at Philadelphia than at any other of the few post offices to which supplies were sent and the stamps were generally canceled there with a red star. This red star was apparently only used in the Carrier Division of the Philadelphia P.O. and is regarded as a "Carrier cancelation." While the postmark of that period is generally found in blue it seems that instead of the red Carrier Star, this copy was canceled with the postmark and in red.

That Herrmann sale was held thirty-five years ago last month. Recently a Franklin stamp with a red Philadelphia postmark was submitted to me for authentication and reference to my records disclosed that it was the same stamp that I had photographed 35 years ago. When I made that photograph back there in 1921 I had little idea that it would prove useful 35 years later.

I am no authority on the Franklin Carrier stamp but I imagine that a copy that is genuine with a genuine red Philadelphia postmark must be quite a rarity, perhaps unique.

THE NEW YORK OCEAN MAIL POSTMARK

Photograph No. 255 is an item that was sold in the Klep sale last March in Brussels by Balasse. It was Lot 778 (page 75) partially illustrated on Plate 22 of that catalogue. It was again sold in a sale by J. & H. Stolow on June 27, 1956 as lot 160 and was partly illustrated on page 14 of that catalogue. It was described in the latter as follows: "160 - 24 - 37A - 1¢ blue Type V and 24¢ gray lilac, neatly tied on front of cover with N. Y. Ocean Mail canc., extremely rare." (unquote) This was not a cover but a piece, i.e., a piece of a front of a cover. Too bad it was so cut up as this is quite an interesting study. It furnishes a fine example of having the item tell it's own story, much of which is written right there on it's face. So let us see if we can translate the story as it is written.

THE NEW YORK OCEAN MAIL TO CALIFORNIA

This type of New York postmark with it's little 8-bar grid at the top has long been of much interest to me and I suppose I have written quite a lot about it. As far as we are aware, it first came into use at the New York Post Office in February 1854 and was used up until September (or October?) of 1861. It's use during that seven and a half year period was intended solely for mail bound for California and Oregon by the U. S. Ocean Mail Steamship Route Via Panama.

During the eighteen-fifties the mail ships departed from New York for Panama with the Western mails on the 5th and 20th of each month. If these dates fell on Sunday, the sailing was delayed until Monday. Commencing on July 1, 1860, tri-monthly service was inaugurated and the mail ships departed on the 1st, 11th and 21st of each month unless these dates fell on Sunday. When this happened the sailing was delayed until Monday.

It is my theory that at the main post office in New York there was a window especially marked for deposit of mail for California by the "Ocean Mail" and possibly at times mail addressed to other destinations was, thru error, dropped in the California window and thus thru error received the Ocean Mail postmark.

I believe the Klep piece addressed to "PORTO" was such an error.

May I call attention to a P.O. Regulation. Mail was postmarked with the date of departure, rather than with the date of deposit. Thus if a person deposited a California addressed letter on June 7 of a given year, such a letter would be postmarked with the next date of departure, viz., June 20th.

THE KLEP 24¢ 1860 PIECE

The Klep item has a 1¢ 1857 and a 24¢ 1860. Copies of the 1¢ 1855 and 1857 with this marking, the "O.M." are not common, still they are not exactly rare, because lots of mail with the 10¢ rate had three 3¢ plus

a 1¢, however, a 24¢ with this marking is decidedly scarce because the great majority of the mail was single or double rates. Also the 24¢ 1860 was not issued until July 1860 and it was demonetized at the New York Post Office in mid-September 1861 or at least notice was given to the public at that time to that effect.

THE KLEP PIECE AND IT'S 24¢ 1860

This item is addressed to "PORTO," and it bears a double circle postmark of "PORTO - 21JANR - 1861," thus this letter in it's original form went to Portugal, and to the town of Oporto or "Porto," Portugal's second largest city, in population and importance, some 172 miles north by east of Lisbon.

The "O.M." postmark on this piece bears a date of "1 JAN" - inverted. On the face of this piece is a red London postmark which reads, "LONDON - JA - 14 - 61 - PAID." In 1861, Jan. 1st fell on Tuesday and British Cunard sailings were on Wednesdays from New York and Boston. My records show that there was a sailing from New York on Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1861 for Liverpool by the Cunard Line, so this letter surely was despatched from New York on that date. The London postmark tells us that this was a rate, "OPEN MAIL VIA ENGLAND TO PORTUGAL." At left is a red manuscript "32." This gives us two facts, viz: First the weight of this letter - and second, the original rate. This "32" was the credit to Britain of her share of the postage paid. Inasmuch as the U. S. share was the "INTERIAL" of 5¢, then the original rate was 37¢, (32¢ plus 5¢). This meant that the letter did not weigh over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce. Thus in January 1861, it is my guess that the stamp (or stamps) that is missing could have been a 12¢ 1857 and doubtless from Plate 3. I imagine such a stamp was cut from the right end. Reference to the official rates of foreign postages for December 1860 and January 1861 shows - "Portugal - open mail via England 29¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce - 37¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce". Hence the weight of the original letter was over $\frac{1}{4}$ oz., but not over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. The 37¢ rate was not paid in full to the addressee, but to the Portuguese frontier, and to left of the 1¢ stamp is a handstamped "160" in black, which was the Portuguese postage due of "160 Reis." As a "Reis" was 1/10 of a U. S. cent, this was approximately 16¢ or 8 British pence.

ANOTHER OCEAN MAIL PIECE

Photograph No. 256 illustrates another "piece" with the stamps canceled by the New York "O.M." postmark of "Oct. 22" and the date inverted like the above Klep item. The rate to California was in multiples of 10¢ and this item has a pair of the 10¢ 1857, Type V and two singles of the 1¢ 1857, Type V. Was this a triple rate to the West with 8¢ missing or was this a piece of mail to some other destination than California with stamps missing? There was a rate to Peru at the time this was used of 22¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., so this might have been a piece of mail to that country of 10¢ U. S. to Panama, plus the 12¢ British carriage to Peru from Panama. Again regarding the date of Oct. 22. This seems to indicate that the sailing date was the tri-monthly of the 1st, 11th and 21st of Oct. 21, but was delayed a day because the 21st fell on a Sunday. I note that in 1860, the 21st of Oct. did fall on Sunday, hence this was

probably a use from New York on Monday Oct. 22, 1860. If this was a letter to Peru, what a shame the cover was destroyed leaving only this piece. Such a cover to Peru would be quite a wonderful and desirable item.

AN ERROR IN YEAR DATE

Back in March 1935, the late Charles J. Phillips sent me a folded price current with a One Cent 1851 tied by a postmark of "May 1," and Phillips stated that he was sending me a cover with a One Cent showing a use earlier than any I had ever reported, because the circular was date-lined inside Boston, May 1, 1851, and postmarked "May 1." Photograph No. 257 illustrates the inside of this circular showing the "1851" date, and

Photograph No. 258 illustrates the cover, with address to Vermont, and a One Cent stamp from Plate One Early. I am quite sure that no One Cent stamps were issued to the public prior to July 1, 1851, so the printed "1851" was a typographical error and should have been "1852." Further, there was no printed circular rate of postage of 1¢ in May 1851, and further, according to that fine book on "Boston Postal Markings" by Maurice C. Blake, this type of Boston marking is unknown used earlier than Nov. 8, 1851 (see "B.P.M.," page 131, Plate 34, No. 601). From time to time in the past 21 years this cover has been submitted to me as a use on May 1, 1851, so I am herewith putting this cover on record. The actual use was surely 1852 and not 1851.

A COVER TO MEXICO IN 1860

Photograph No. 259 illustrates a cover to Vera Cruz, Mexico from New Orleans, postmarked May 11, 1860. The stamps are a 10¢ 1857, Type V and a pair of 1¢ 1857, Type V. Why this 12¢ rate? At that period and for many years thereafter we did not have a postal treaty with Mexico whereby postage in either country could be prepaid to ultimate destinations in the other.

The great bulk of the mail to Mexico from the Eastern & Southern states was forwarded by steamships and the "Steamship Rate" applied, viz - under 2500 miles, 10¢ - over 2500 miles, 20¢. Why then this extra 2¢ on this letter which originated at New Orleans and was forwarded thence by the "Potomac" to Vera Cruz, with Mexican postage due of "6" at that port?

The only explanation that I can offer for this cover is that it was a "Carrier," that is, a letter that was deposited in a mail-box for carriage to the N.O. Post Office. In the early 1850's the "U.S. N.O. City Post" at New Orleans charged a carrier fee of one cent each for local letters but a 2¢ fee on letters from out of the city, (see Vol. 2 - the Ashbrook One Cent Book). I have been informed that in May 1860 there was no 2¢ carrier fee at New Orleans. Whether this statement is true, I do not know. Perhaps the firm that sent this letter thought there was such a Carrier Fee and that it could be prepaid by a pair of one cent stamps. If they were right then this is a very rare cover and

the only 10¢ plus 2¢ from New Orleans in my records. I might mention that a prepaid "Ship" would in no way apply to this use.

Photograph No. 260 illustrates two 5¢ 1847 covers that I think are quite an interesting pair. Both are from the cashier of a bank in Baltimore addressed to the cashier of a bank in Philadelphia. One was mailed on Wednesday, Apr. 17, 1850, the other, the next day, Thursday Apr. 18, 1850. Both have 5¢ stamps in the lower left corner, the former with the rate marking "5" in the upper left and the stamp canceled with the blue Baltimore postmark. The other shows the 5¢ stamp canceled by the red grid and with the Philadelphia "R" in blue, denoting that this was a Registered letter or what I call a Recorded letter as we did not have a registration system until 1855. The "R" indicated that the letter contained a valuable enclosure and for the delivery clerk to be careful to deliver it to the person addressed.

The first letter was mailed as a regular letter but when the second one was mailed a request was made at the Baltimore P.O. that a record be made that this letter contained valuables and that it was mailed by Mr. Blank at a given time on a given date. This information was "recorded" in a book at the Post Office in case the letter was lost or stolen. Such recorded letters were sent in separate packages from the regular mail. These two stamps are fresh, sharp impressions and in my opinion were printed from the 5¢ plate soon after it had been thoroughly cleaned. The April dates thus indicate that the plate was cleaned early in 1850.

THE "FLORIDA" CASE

In July 1864 the U. S. Steamer "ELECTRIC SPARK" sailed from New York for New Orleans with the U. S. Mails and enroute she was captured by the Confederate armed steamer "Florida." This ship was built in Liverpool, England, for the Confederate Government and sailed on March 22, 1862 from Liverpool for Nassau, in the Bahamas under British colors and by the name of the "Oreto." There her name and flag were changed and she was taken command of by Commander J. N. Maffit of the Confederate Navy and formerly a lieutenant in the U. S. Navy. She sailed in August 1862 under Confederate colors as the "Florida" and successfully ran the Federal blockade into Mobile.

Among other loot taken from the "Electric Spark" when she was captured by the "Florida" were seven or eight packages of United States postage stamps, principally of the 3¢ denomination, to a face value of approximately \$10,500.00. These had been shipped by the contractors, the National Bank Note Co. in New York City upon orders to New Orleans and several other post offices in Louisiana. At the time of the capture, one Richard Taylor was Purser and Paymaster of the "Florida" and he took possession of the packages of U. S. postage stamps, and kept them as his personal property. After the war was over, Taylor, in September 1865, sold these postage stamps to one Alfred Woods, a curb stone stock broker in Liverpool, England for some 1180 pounds sterling (approx. \$5,900.00). Taylor represented the stamps as his personal property and that they

were obligations of the U. S. Government and redeemable the same as any U. S. currency. In payment, Broker Woods gave ex-Paymaster Taylor two promissory notes, one for 400 pounds, the other for 780 pounds. Taylor realized on these notes and put the money in his pocket. At the time the case was finally settled in 1868, Taylor was president of a bank in Virginia. On the 27th of September 1865, Broker Woods turned over the packages of stamps to Gillespie & Co., stock brokers in Liverpool who in turn forwarded them to Boyd & Arthurs, commission merchants in Toronto, Canada, with instructions to negotiate for their sale in the U. S. Boyd telegraphed to their correspondent, a banking firm in New York City, inquiring upon what terms the stamps could be sold, and the latter immediately got in touch with B. K. Sharretts, a Special Agent of the U. S. Post Office Department in that city, who took the first train for Toronto where he obtained from the high court of chancery an EX-PARTE injunction restraining the sale of the stamps and placing them in the hands of the sheriff. This was in December 1865.

THE U. S. WINS IT'S SUIT

In August of 1868 a decree was rendered awarding costs to the United States and ordering a return of the stamps to their rightful owner, the Government of the U. S. The entire lot of stamps were restored to the Department the middle of October 1868. In the suit in the Canadian Court the United States made some very interesting claims, as for example - The capture of the stamps was by a vessel having in law no national status, a government not recognized by any nation on earth. The capture by a vessel flying a flag not permitted access to any prize courts, nor to any port except as a matter of common charity, thus a vessel whose legal character was that of a pirate, and whose practices were by the evidence purely piratical, and an act of piracy, therefore, a felony, hence no transfer of ownership had ever occurred thru the illegal capture. Further - that there was no condemnation by a prize court through which alone title to property captured on the high seas could pass. Also that the capture was not for the Confederacy as Robert Taylor, his fellow officers and the crew of the "Florida" appropriated to themselves all the property captured from the U. S. ship.

THE STATUS OF A POSTAGE STAMP

The U. S. further claimed that a U. S. postage stamp was simply a promise on the part of the Government to perform mail service, and not in any sense a contract to pay money. Further - that it was a part of the law of nations that the conqueror in a war succeeds to the property of the conquered and that at the time of the sale by Taylor in September of 1865 the stamps were the legal property of the U. S. if perchance there was any question that they had not been since their seizure in 1864. The defense claimed that by an act of Congress postage stamps were made fractional currency, which the plaintiff claimed was a natural enough misconception of the fractional currency act of 1862.

Another interesting claim that was made by the U. S. was that title to postage stamps must pass through some postmaster or other officer of the Post Office Department, there being no other person authorized to

sell them at first hands so that when it was proved that after having left the factory at New York, they had never passed into the hands of an officer of the U. S. for sale or distribution, according to law, they must have been unlawfully obtained.

THE END OF THE "FLORIDA"

Incidentally the "Florida" later surrendered to the U. S. sloop of war - "Wachusett" in Brazilian waters in October of 1864, and was taken to Hampton Roads and destroyed.

END OF ISSUE NO. 65

August 1, 1956

Sixth Series of 1956 - 1957

Third of the Sixth Series

Six photographs accompany this issue.

Nos. 255, 256, 257, 258, 259 and 260.

SUPPLEMENT TO ISSUE NO. 65.

ASHBROOK SPECIAL SERVICE

August 1, 1956

THE KLEP SALE BY BALASSE
MARCH 27 - 28, 1956 at
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM.

The following is a translation of an article that appeared in French in The Balasse Magazine for April 1956. Also in that issue was a list of prices realized at the sale. I am sure a copy will be sent to anyone requesting same. Address, "Willy Balasse, Rue du Midi - 45A - Brussels, Belgium.

THE LESSON OF A SALE
by DIDIER DARTEYRE

(Balasse Magazine No. 105, page 76 - April 1956)
(Foreward)

Recently, March 27 and 28, we have scattered away, through the fire of auction sales, the famous specialized collections in the United States of the deceased Consul Klep Van Velthoven. (Consul at Bruxelles for Venezuela).

He was the one who during many international exhibitions won for our country, Belgium, the best successes and honours.

This auction sale was the great event of the European philatelic year, and in a mundial scale one of the most important events of these last few years. Indeed, if the auction sales of Roosevelt, Carol, the first of Roumania, Farouk of Egypt, in the world of immediate actuality, were representing a very large amount of money and also a great consecration in the frame of general collections, nevertheless the Klep auction sale was concerned with only one country and only for its primitive emissions which was so forming a precious well of informations that sometimes put this Klep collection on a superior level. For answering the thousands requests that were sent to us, we took the decision of publishing in the columns of our present magazine a complete list of the prices that have been paid during this now famous auction sale. If one can observe that these prices were very constant, it is also to be noticed that some of these prices reached amounts that very seldom have been paid.

The struggle between the amateurs, the most famous of the old Europe, and the most qualified representative of Young America, started a hot competition that grantly contributed to the success of this sale.

In one critical article that our subscribers will read with interest, our friend and well known Parisian expert Didier Darteyre tell us his impressions during this sale and the lessons we can infer from these memorable auctions.

W. B. (Willy Balasse)

Do we see, presently, the birth of a new philatelic era? Are we at a decisive turning point in the life of the postage stamp? Are we to be witnesses of a beneficent evolution in many points of view, of changing forms that still recently could not be foreseen? And also of a wise and reasonable consideration of problems that until now were not

Page #2.

well understood and consequently incompletely resolved? One could and should think so, after witnessing this auction sale of the Klep collection that the great impresario Willy Balasse has just achieved in Brussels, with the success we know.

Certainly, an active and large publicity had been made around this sale, that had been prepared in a minimum of time but that nevertheless was expected to be very sensational; the number of those interested was advance a certainty of perfect success and the quality of many other of its items, added to the extreme rarity of many other prices, was for the organizers a guarantee of the rewards that always follows any meritorious efforts. Nevertheless we are convinced, as is anybody who has seen this memorable auction sale, that Willy Balasse himself was surprised, as we were, by certain aspects of this sale, about which people will still speak for many years. In fact it's a question of figures, such that they can be considered as without any precedent in Europe; such amount of money, unbeaten to this day; and mostly like a series of bids that without any slowing, and without the smallest faltering and without stopping even once of keeping the numerous public in a kind of suspension; during two days every Continental record was "SMASHED," and with one thousand two hundred lots, they realized a total of 62 millions of French Francs was reached including expenses, for only this part of the 156th Balasse Sale.

The Klep collection was attractive and seducing if you consider it from every point of view, that's why it brought to Brussels a great number of "collectionneurs" or business men, some from U. S. A., Canada, Germany, England, Spain, France, Holland, Switzerland, even South Africa. But the great competition was between the wealthy North Americans and Canadians and those from Switzerland and Germany, who several times crossed the steel (the steel of their philatelic pincers) with a fire that was sustained from both sides. A few of them were waving that they looked almost like the sticks of policemen while others were lifting their arms with a pencil in their hands that was coming down only after the hammer of the auctioneer had come down. We can congratulate this auctioneer Fl. Crahay to have been able to do without attendants in spite of these very exciting rounds.

We remind you that these "matches" starting at 3 P.M., were ending only around midnight, after only a break of half an hour to hastily absorb a few sandwiches that had been prepared by a pretty and diligent air hostess. That's right, we say air hostess, for our machine, we mean the comfortable sales room of Willy Balasse was soaring through altitudes that to this day had never been reached, flying above figures that were for all like Everest mountain of the philatelic. We have to acknowledge that we all who took part in this match, at times, had a kind of vertigo. And how could we avoid this vertigo when bids following bids in a devil's dance, with a saving of cigars and pencils, we could see adjudicated New York Postmaster stamps, on letters or isolated (single), at prices that were multiplying the regular quotations by several figures. Some No. 2's being knocked down to the highest bidder for 120,000 francs; a pair of No. 8's reaching 225,000. A few St. Louis bears, isolated (singles) others on bands (strips?) or on letters reaching 1,104,000 and 1,650,000 francs. Two No. 6's sold for 175,000 francs each. A band (stri) of four No. 7's: 156,000 francs.

One isolated stamp of 10 C. (Type IV) 184,000; a block of six stamps on letters of No. 11: 1,104,000, and hold yourself a beautiful band of three verticals of No. 6 that were quoted at 90,000 francs were sold for 3 million and a half French francs. We will not say that a few among us were so surprised that they started to be scared for themselves to the point of counting their pulse, and taking their temperatures, but it is a fact that several, when they woke up in the following morning, asked themselves, where were they last night or whether they had a beautiful golden dream.

Now, for Willy Balasse, the promoter and director of this sale, after we bet that after a resting sleep, he was congratulating with sincere enthusiasm the Franklin, the Washington, the Jefferson, the Lincoln, the Jackson and other great men whose pictures are reproduced on the American postage stamps. And maybe these celebrities of the U. S. history have for him alone executed some nice and graceful rondeaus(?), for these stamps were really sold to the scale of their political genius. Yes it was a great sale, a very great sale, from which it seems that the European philatelists will gain a large profit and will obtain from it some precious information. First, we have mentioned that all the lots that were sold have reached very high prices, and this matches very well with the quality and rarity of the offered items; (we don't say given items, which would be rather exaggerated). We have also mentioned that a stable equilibrium was instantly maintained among the prices. We can say that here we have the confirmation of this fact that the stamps marked recently indicates a broad evolution; it also indicates that if very fine prices are bought there at prices that are in proportion to their exceptional characteristics, even when we deal with stamps seldom quoted, the great rarities reach very large amounts of money, not only for items that are perfect but also for those that present some defects that the catalogue describes (folds, cracks, short teeth or thinness). And this sale reminds us of an English sale, for the English collectors mostly consider the rareness and frequently do not insist on being excessively exigent about different defects. The pieces of major interest also, like the 30 cent 1869 with inverted center that was announced as repaired and with a crack although of a quotation of 650,000 French francs, has reached the figure of one million 600,000 francs. Outside of that, we have gained, from this sale, the same conception that the great experts of America, apply to the signatures of certain pieces, very rare such as blocks or bands.

Our American colleague Stanley B. Ashbrook who presently is the greatest authority the other side of the Atlantic, signs, in fact a few rarities of true magnitude and also rarities that are not very great, even if they present some folding thinness or crack. Is not this an excellent method? Personally, we believe that this way is the best one for keeping stamps from being falsified and when one knows that a scarce stamp with a slight defect, will be judged for its true merits, he will buy it more easily. On the contrary, the one who possesses such a stamp of a true value but with a few defects and is not able to sell it because it has few teeth (perfs?) too short or round, which is frequent in Europe will maybe try to get it repaired with the secret hope to have an expert sign it and to sell it as a piece of first choice.

We hope that this observation will help amateurs of Europe to understand better that when a stamp is in a perfect and extraordinary condition,

which happens only once in a thousand times, in that condition the stamp has a great value; we saw it for magnificent prices that logically reached a price sometimes one hundred times their quoted value, nevertheless a slight defect should never be a cause for rejecting a rare piece, when its price is established according to this defect. We will add that all the great specialists who are great connoisseurs never hesitate to buy a stamp of second choice, when it bears an obliteration or any other rare variety, or even more simply when its appearance make it more interesting for its variety(?) of its coloring.

This 156th sale, organized by Willy Balasse, was then at the same time a great success that was well deserved by its organizer but it was also a great success no less lucky for philately. Our congratulations to the first, (Mr. Willy Balasse) and for the second one (Philately) we rejoice that just once more has shown, itself prosper with a confirmation that it is the life of a great business every day in progress and every day appreciated; also philately gives birth to profits and pleasure constantly renovated, one mixing with the other one to the satisfaction of all.

Note.-Let us notice by the way that the 156th sale, comprising a total of nine cissions, went above the French record of 75 millions of French francs.

(The above with numerous errors is as received from the translator - S.B.A.)

ASHBROOK SPECIAL SERVICE

ISSUE NO. 66 - SEPTEMBER 1, 1956 (Sixth Series - 1956-1957)

THE 3¢ 1861 - PINK AND PIGEON BLOOD

Some important changes will be made in the listings in the 1957 Scott U. S. Specialized Catalogue, including recognition of the 3¢ 1861 "pigeon blood," off cover and on cover. I recognize the fact that many collectors find it difficult to distinguish the difference between a "near pink" and the real "pink," and perhaps very few can tell the difference between a "real pink" and the very scarce "pigeon blood pink." However, such stamps as the pink and pigeon blood have long been known to advanced students of the various colors of 19th U.S. postal issues. I believe that a real pink will be priced in the 1957 S. U. S. at \$300.00 unused, \$50.00 used (off cover) and \$60.00 on cover. In comparison, the pigeon blood will be quoted at \$100.00 used, off cover, and \$150.00 on cover. With this new listing many will no doubt wonder how they will be able to identify a "pigeon blood." The answer is, if in doubt, have the stamp examined by a recognized authority.

If you have a 3¢ 1861 before you that is pinkish and you are uncertain whether it is a pink or a pinkish rose, the chances are you can rest assured it is not a pigeon blood because the chances are that if you were shown a copy of this beautiful deep color stamp it would hit you in the eye with a bang at first glance.

I do not know who was the first to give the name "pigeon blood" to this 3¢ 1861 stamp but I am sure the term goes back many years. My fine reference copies of the color were obtained about 40 years ago and were labeled as "pigeon bloods" at that time.

THE TERM "PIGEON BLOOD"

Elliott Perry in an article in "STAMPS" of July 5, 1941 stated, quote: "Way back in the old days a deep pink stamp was known and someone called it 'pigeon blood,' long before my time. I have used that name but had nothing to do with selecting it. I must have seen it in print at least 35 years ago (1906) and have always believed it was old then." (unquote)

Following the above article was an "Editor's Note" by Harry Lindquist from which I quote as follows: "The subject of the 3¢ pink has always been a controversial one. There are so many degrees of pink in these stamps that it is almost impossible to select one shade as a standard and say that this is the PINK. Each stamp must necessarily stand on its own merits, and to anyone who has studied the stamps it is very clear that they fall into three general classifications: 1st, pigeon blood; 2nd, pink; 3rd, near pink. In each classification there are variations, and the plan adopted by Stanley B. Ashbrook some years ago, seems to be a step in the right direction. He takes all of the 3¢ stamps that he has and classifies them into the following six divisions: 1st, deep pigeon

blood; 2nd, pale pigeon blood; 3rd, the real pink; 4th, the near pink; 5th, the rose pink (meaning it has more pink than rose); 6th, the pinkish rose, (meaning it has more rose than pink). xxxxxx When a stamp is submitted for classification it is a comparatively simple matter to compare it with reference copies and classify it as one of the six degrees of shade. It is quite possible that a stamp submitted may be a much deeper pigeon blood than even the finest in Mr. Ashbrook's collection, or others may vary considerably, but the chart enables a comparative classification that is useful and sufficiently accurate for all practicable purposes." (unquote)

The above was written fifteen years ago and I am still using the same reference copies and the same classification.

Elliott Perry stated above that the term "pigeon blood" goes back to at least 1906 and was no doubt used much earlier. Well, that was fifty years ago and at long last the Scott catalogue is to give recognition to the 3¢ 1861 pigeon blood.

Perry also mentioned above that a certain "deep pink stamp" was called a pigeon blood. I believe that is an excellent description - "a deep pink stamp." As a general rule the average 3¢ 1861 pink is more or less pale but the pigeon is just the reverse, it is a very deep pink. In this respect I have never seen an unused pigeon blood and I doubt if one exists. For this reason the stamp "unused" will not be priced "unused" in the 1957 S. U. S.

In an effort to describe the pigeon blood, some writer years ago must have stated that the stamp seems to have a bluish cast, and this bluish cast has been repeated many times. I have never been able to see anything bluish about a 3¢ 1861 pigeon blood, or a pink, or a near pink, or a rose. Inasmuch as we all see a bit different perhaps some do imagine they see a bluish cast in a real pink, however, as a warning, if you fail to see any blue do not conclude you have the wrong stamp.

Of all stamps and covers submitted to me in recent years for examination and authentication I suppose I have had more of the 3¢ 1861 "pink(?)" than any other stamp, not even excepting the 1¢ of 1851-57. All such items that are exceptional are recorded by color photography.

The tint of the pigeon blood, or the pink, is difficult to record on a color transparency as the reproduction is not an accurate recording of the original, however, a comparison of a number of color slides of stamps that I examined and classified does give an excellent lot of reference material, and is quite an addition to my original system that Mr. Lindquist referred to as my "Chart."

BY ULTRA-VIOLET LIGHT

I believe that some students use the "Lamp" in an effort to determine whether a certain stamp is a "near pink," a real pink or a pigeon blood. I use a very fine "Hanovia" ultra-violet ray equipped with transformer, etc., in my work, but I never use the "ultra-violet" to examine the

shades of the 3¢ 1861 or any other color problem, because in my opinion, such tests are ineffective and do not prove anything worth while.

A 3¢ 1861, "PIGEON BLOOD" ON COVER

As stated above, the S. U. S. in the 1957 Edition, will quote a 3¢ 1861 pigeon blood on cover at \$150.00 which reminds me that in a sale by Robert Siegel on March 22nd, 1956, Lot 128 was described as follows, quote: "#128 - 3¢ pink (64) beautiful shade tied Portland Me Oct 4, 1861, 'This is the PIGEON BLOOD PINK' signed Stanley B. Ashbrook. Extremely fine and rare shade." (unquote) The sale price was \$255.00

Incidentally it is rather interesting to note that my records show that this cover was sent to me on Feb. 8th, 1940 by Mr. W. L. Moody, III, for my authentication. At that time my Ridgway reading of the color of the pigeon blood stamp was "71'G." In the Moody sale held by H. R. Harmer, Inc., on Oct. 25, 1950, this cover was Lot #691. The stamp was described as a PINK not as a pigeon blood, quote: "691 - 3¢ pink very fine, tied by Portland Me Oct 4 1861 to small attractive cover." (unquote) The sale price was \$50.00. Quite a contrast to the price it brought last March. The chances are if it had been properly described as a "pigeon blood" it would have realized a much higher figure.

A PIGEON BLOOD COVER TO CANADA

In the same Moody sale Lot #692 was a cover with a single and a pair of the pigeon blood plus a 1¢ 1861 from Boston Nov. 8, 1861 to Canada. The 3¢ stamps were described as pink, not the pigeon blood, nevertheless it sold at \$230.00, and the buyer was the late Mr. Louis F. Yeckel of St. Louis. After the sale Mr. Yeckel sent the cover to me inquiring if I considered the stamps the rare pigeon blood color. After Mr. Yeckel's death John A. Fox acquired the collection and this rare cover was Lot #259 in a Fox sale held last June 6th, 1956. It was described as follows: "#259 - 1861 - 3¢ pink, 1¢ blue. Horiz. pair & single of the rare 'PIGEON BLOOD' shade; single of the 1¢ blue, all neatly tied by 'Boston Paid' to cover with embossed 'Telegraph Fire Alarm' in upper left corner. Signed by Ashbrook. Extremely rare and fine. (photo)" (unquote) The sale price was \$360.00.

Some people are too stingy to have a valuable cover authenticated but it pays a big dividend when the item is sold.

Again re - this remarkable cover to Canada. I believe it is quite possible that it is the same cover that was sold in the famous Scybold Sale held by Morgenthau in March 1910. In that sale Lot #73 was described as, quote: "(1861) 3¢ very deep rose, 3 copies used with a 1¢ on 1 cover: The stamps are a most unusual shade." (unquote) That was the year 1910 and Morgenthau noticed the most unusual shade.

ANOTHER COVER OF LONG AGO

Years ago in the nineteen twenties there was a dealer in New York by the name of Herman Toaspern who was quite a keen student of 19th U. S. stamps

and covers. In a sale that he held on March 22, 1924, he described Lot 70 as a 3¢ pink and stated: "The most beautiful rich real pink I have ever seen. On neat clean envelope tied with 'SENECA FALLS N.Y. SEP 18 1861.'" I wonder if that stamp was a pigeon blood? I have no later record of the cover used from Seneca Falls, N.Y. Also no record of the sale price.

A STEVE BROWN COVER

I have a memorandum in my files that in 1935 (21 years ago) the late Steve Brown showed me a cover in his collection with a most remarkable and beautiful deep pigeon blood used from Cleveland, Ohio on Oct. 25, 1861, to New Lyme, Ohio.

The Stephen Brown collection was sold after his death by Harmer Rooke & Co., Oct. 30th - Nov. 4th, 1939, and this cover was Lot #1028 in the sale and described as follows, quote: "3¢ pink, another wonderful copy in a slightly darker shade, (than lot #1027) tied by black grid cancellation to immaculate cover." (unquote) It was not illustrated. The sale price was only \$51.00 and it was purchased by "MRC." I marked Lot #1028 as "Superb pigeon blood" and that was certainly true.

I judge the buyer "MRC" was "Mr. C." or Mr. Caspary as this cover is in the Caspary collection today and will doubtless come up in a Caspary sale this fall. Note the description above - a "darker shade." Whoever obtains this gem will acquire a superb cover and a gorgeous copy of the "dark or deep pigeon blood." I would be quite surprised if it would be possible to find a finer example. So if anyone would like to know what a fine deep pigeon blood looks like, this cover is the answer. This cover was purchased by Brown from Kelleher in 1933 for \$125.00.

Also in the Brown sale, Lot #1026 was an off cover copy of a 3¢ 1861 pink which was probably over-described, for example, quote: Lot "1026 - 3¢ pink, cancelled with brown town cancellation, the finest 3¢ pink in existence." (unquote) That sure covers a lot of ground. This stamp went to Fifield at \$52.00. I wonder if this stamp went into the Norcross collection and I wonder where it is today. A brown town!!!

A UNIQUE PIGEON BLOOD COVER

In the Brown sale Lot #1030 was a most remarkable combination cover, which contained two copies of the 3¢ 1861, one being a "rose," the other a "pigeon blood." Here side-by-side for comparison was the rare color alongside the common rose. Surely this cover must be unique. The cover was described as follows: "#1030 - 3¢ pink, a wonderful shade and copy, tied with 3¢ rose by black 'PAID' cancellation to nice cover, a very rare combination and a very desirable cover." (unquote) The sale price was \$85.00 and the buyer, Mr. Harold C. Brooks of Marshall, Mich. When I dispersed the Brooks collection this unique item was acquired by Mr. Edgar B. Jessup.

In the April 3rd, 1952 Issue of this Service, on page #82, I mentioned this cover but thru error, I stated that the stamps were a pigeon blood and a pink. In the above Issue of this Service I discussed the 3¢ 1861

pink and pigeon blood on pages 81 and 82.

ANOTHER FINE PIGEON BLOOD COVER

Just for the record I would like to include mention of another cover recorded in my files with a superb example of the "deep" pigeon blood, a cover that was sent to me for recording by Elliott Perry early in 1941. It had a single on cover postmarked "Lee, Mass. Sept. 14, 1861." I have no idea where that cover is today, but I would like to locate it and make a color recording.

In this discussion of the 3¢ 1861 pigeon blood, I have described a few outstanding covers in my records with this remarkable stamp. In all probability you own a cover that was not mentioned.

AMERICAN AND BRITISH PACKET MAIL RATES 1847-1849

The SS. Washington, carrying the first mail to England and Europe by an American Packet under contract with the U. S. P.O. Department, sailed from New York in June 1847. In that same month the British P.O. issued an Order that the regular British steamship packet rates be charged in England on letters brought by American Packets. This induced the U. S. Congress to pass a Retaliatory Act on June 27, 1848, which imposed the same steamship rates as American postage on letters conveyed to or from the United States by British Packets, until this Act was rescinded early in January 1849.

During the Retaliatory Rate Period what prepaid rates of postage were required on U. S. Mail addressed to Great Britain if sent by British Packet, (British Mail ships)? - Or, if sent by American Packet? The following tables were prepared by Mr. Maurice C. Blake of Brooklin, Mass. and in my opinion are accurate. It is well to bear in mind that the British did not recognize a triple rate, if a letter weighed over one ounce and not over two ounces four rates were charged. The U. S. rated per half-ounce. Rates abroad by American Packets were fixed by Congress as per the act approved March 3, 1845 and were as follows, (not less than 3,000 miles) -

Not exceeding 1/2 oz. - inland plus 24¢ sea.

" " one " - " " 48¢ "

and for every additional half-ounce 15¢ for the sea, thus -

Over one oz. but not over 1½ ounces, inland plus 63¢

" 1½ ounces - not over 2 ounces, " " 78¢

BY AMERICAN PACKET

from the U.S. to G.B. (or from G.B. to the U.S.)

(NOTE - During the Retaliatory Rate Period, 1848-1849, "American Packets" for Europe (subsidized by the U.S. Government) - sailed only from New York. On mail originating in New York City and forwarded by such packets no U. S. inland postage was charged, only the sea rate. This also applied to mail from Britain, or beyond and thru England, addressed to that city by American Packets. On such mail only the U. S. SEA postage was collected. No inland)

Distance in the U. S. not over 300 miles

Scale	Domestic	Sea	Total	Charged in Britain
To $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	5¢	\$.24	\$.29	1 shilling
" 1 oz.	10¢	.48	.58	2 shillings
" $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	15¢	.63	.78	4 "
" 2 oz.	20¢	.78	.98	4 "
" $2\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	25¢	.93	1.18	6 "
" 3 oz.	30¢	1.08	1.38	6 "

Over 300 miles

Scale	Domestic	Sea	Total	Charged in Britain
To $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	10¢	\$.24	\$.34	1 shilling
" 1 oz.	20¢	.48	.68	2 shillings
" $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	30¢	.63	.93	4 "
" 2 oz.	40¢	.78	1.18	4 "
" $2\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	50¢	.93	1.43	6 "
" 3 oz.	60¢	1.08	1.68	6 "

BY BRITISH PACKETfrom the U. S. to G.B. (or from G.B.)

By U. S. Retaliatory Act June 27, 1848 - Jan. 4(?), 1849

Distances in the U. S. not over 300 miles

Scale	Domestic	Sea	Total	Charged in Britain	U.S. Total
To $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	5¢	24¢	\$.29	1 shilling	\$.24
" 1 oz.	10¢	48¢	.58	2 shillings	.48
" $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	15¢	96¢	1.11	4 "	.96
" 2 oz.	20¢	96¢	1.16	4 "	.96

To (or from) U.S. port

(Note-These rates apply to mail from or to the U.S. port of entry or departure)

Over 300 miles

To $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	10¢	24¢	.34	1 shilling	.24
" 1 oz.	20¢	48¢	.68	2 shillings	.48
" $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	30¢	96¢	1.26	4 "	.96
" 2 oz.	40¢	96¢	1.36	4 "	.96

In my opinion this table is very interesting because it shows a different table of rates between mail sent by British Packets and American Packets, thus an American rate of postage was regulated in this instance by a scale fixed by the British. The reason for this is the wording of the "Retaliatory Law" as approved by Congress June 27, 1848 and effective as of that date.

(Note by S.B.A. - I believe the use of the word "PACKET" referred to Government subsidized mail contract ships - thus ships of the British Cunard Line - sailing between Liverpool and Boston and New York).

Sec. 1 of the Act of June 27, 1848 read in part as follows:

"That the Postmaster General under the direction of the President xxx is authorized xxx to charge xxx and collect from, all letters xxx carried to or from xxx the United States, in any foreign packet, ship, or other vessel, the same rate xxx for American postage, which the Government to which such foreign packet xxx belongs imposes upon letters xxx conveyed to or from such foreign country in American Packets or other vessels, as the postage of such government." (unquote)

-----Prior to this Act of June 27, 1848 British Steamship Packet mail prepaid in England to the United States had been charged as Ship Letters, 6¢ each to U. S. port, and 2¢ Ship plus inland postage to places in the United States beyond the port of entry. This same ship letter charge and the U. S. inland scale per one-half ounce were resumed when the Act was rescinded in January 1849 until the Anglo-American Postal Treaty, signed in London December 15, 1849, and confirmed by Act of Congress on March 3, 1849.

By the Act of March 3, 1849 Congress accepted the British scale of two rates for each ounce over one ounce for both British and American Packet Mail between England and the United States, prepaid or unpaid, under the Treaty, until the scale was modified to one rate for each one-half ounce in April 1866. Strangely enough the scale of two rates for each ounce over the first ounce was adopted also for United States domestic postage by the Act of March 3, 1849 until the single rate per half-ounce was restored in the United States by the Act of Congress of March 3, 1851, effective July 1, 1851.

MILE STONES IN U. S. POSTAL HISTORY

Prior to July 1, 1845 a sealed first class domestic letter was postage rated, (1) distance to travel (2) number of pieces of paper. Thus a folded letter of one sheet of paper, to travel over 400 miles, cost 25¢. If there was an enclosure, for example, a bank check, the rate was 50¢, or if a person enclosed a letter in an envelope, it was rated as two pieces of paper and double postage was charged.

The Act of March 3, 1845 (effective July 1, 1845) changed the rating from "pieces of paper" to weight by avoirdupois, for example, a single letter under 300 miles was rated at 5¢, over 300 miles 10¢. A single was not over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, and 5¢ was charged for each additional half-ounce. In this day and age we pay 3¢ for one ounce and under. On numerous occasions I have been asked, when was the rate changed from $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce to one ounce. The answer is, that the Act of March 3, 1885, effective July 1, 1885, reduced the rate on first class mail from 2¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., to 2¢ per one ounce. Thus a most important mile stone in our postal history. The Act of March 3, 1883, effective Oct. 1, 1883 had reduced the rate from 3¢ to 2¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce.

I have before me a cover from Cincinnati to Philadelphia in 1829 - sent unpaid and rated - "5 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz - \$5.25," thus it appears that this letter was charged at the rate of \$1.00 per ounce and fraction, and so it was. Just imagine \$1.00 per ounce in 1829 as compared to 2¢ per ounce in 1885.

Suppose we refer to the Act of March 3, 1825 which fixed rates of postage which in the main were in effect for the next 20 years.

For every letter consisting of one sheet of paper

Conveyed not exceeding 30 miles	6¢
over 30 miles, not exceeding 80 miles	10¢
" 80 " " 150 "	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢
" 150 " " 400 "	18 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢
" 400 "	25¢

Every letter with 2 sheets of paper - double these rates

" " " 3 " " " - treble " "

" " " 4 or more pieces of paper and weighing 1 ounce, quadruple the above rates, and in that proportion for all greater weights.

Thus a letter with four or more sheets of paper and weighing one ounce was to be charged four times the above rates. However, the Act of March 3rd, 1825 was not the first law which provided a weight rate if the letter weighed one ounce or more, in fact, we find much the same provision in the Act of Feb. 20, 1792, and in various laws which were later passed.

The Act of Feb. 20, 1792 contained rates as follows:

Quadruple Rates, 4 or more pieces of paper

Weight One Ounce

Conveyed not exceeding 30 miles - 4 x 6¢ = 24¢

" over 30 and not exceeding 80 miles - 4 x 10¢ = 40¢

" " 80 " " 150 " - 4 x 12½¢ = 50¢

" " 150 " " 400 " - 4 x 18 ¾¢ = 75¢

" " 400 miles - 4 x 25¢ = \$1.00

Photo
261

Photograph No. 261 illustrates a most unusual cover, a piece of first class mail sent unpaid at a collect rate of \$17.25. Just imagine!! This was from Martinsburg, Va. July 15, 1844 and addressed to the Auditor of Public Accounts at Richmond, Va. The weight was 23 ounces which meant that the rate was 23 x 75¢, that is, a distance of "over 150 miles but not over 400 miles."

Martinsburg is now in West Virginia. Early lists record it as Martinsburg, Berkly Co., Va. Later lists record it as Martinsburgh (C.H.), Berkeley Co., W.Va.

From this same correspondence I also have a record of an even higher rate. A cover from Morgantown, Va., Aug. 24, 1841, sent unpaid with a rate of "30 oz. - \$22.50." This was also "over 150 miles, but not over 400 miles" at 75¢ single (30 x 75¢ = \$22.50). This town later became the Court House of Monongalia Co., W.Va. This cover shows the highest rate of U. S. postage on record in my files.

THE FRANKLIN CARRIER
with a RED PHILADELPHIA POSTMARK

In last month's issue, page 521, I discussed an off cover copy of a Franklin Carrier stamp that came up in a Morgenthau sale in June 1921, and which had recently been submitted to me for recording. I advised the owner to send the stamp to Elliott Perry for his opinion. I have just been advised by Mr. Perry that the stamp is not an original and that the red postmark is a counterfeit marking.

I recall that years ago there was a chap down in Nassau St., New York, by the name of Sam Singer, who made a business of "restoring" damaged stamps, also removing pencancels and substituting fake postal markings,

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and that among his fakes was a fake Philadelphia postmark. Perhaps Mr. Singer made this great "rarity" which was recently presented to the reference material of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation, New York.

END OF ISSUE NO. 66

September 1, 1956

Sixth Series of 1956 - 1957
Fourth of the Sixth Series

One photograph accompanies this issue
NO. 261

James B. Burroughs

ASHBROOK SPECIAL SERVICE

ISSUE NO. 67 - OCTOBER 1, 1956 (Sixth Series - 1956-1957)

M. ZARESKI

As I have mentioned on numerous occasions, the most notorious "fixer" and counterfeiter of U. S. 19th covers is a scoundrel in Paris, France by the name of Michel Zareski. This crook has defrauded collectors in this country and abroad out of many thousands of dollars with his faked material.

In 1951 there appeared a book entitled, "19th Century United States Fancy Cancellations," by "Herst-Zareski," published by "Herman Herst, Jr." - on the title page was the following: "Authors, students, collectors and dealers referring to this catalog or the numbering of any postmark illustrated herein will oblige by referring to it as the 'Herst-Zareski Postmark Catalog.'" Personally I can hardly imagine why any self-respecting person would care to refer to this publication which was edited by such a criminal.

Incidentally there is an "American Foreward" by none other than Harry M. Konwiser from which I quote as follows: "It can be safely stated that Mr. Zareski has shown himself to be a compiler and author who can be rated 'an ardent student of United States Postal History'." (unquote)

DID ZARESKI MAKE THIS FAKE?

In the Issue of "STAMPS" of September 15th last, appeared a full page advertisement (page 377) by Herman Herst, Jr. of Shrub Oak, N.Y. which illustrated a cover with a 30¢ 1869 from New Orleans to Havre, France. This cover is a fake, insofar as the use of the 30¢ stamp is concerned, as this was originally a stampless cover forwarded unpaid to Havre, France, to which some "fixer" added a 30¢ 1869 and "tied" it to the cover. As this sort of artistic work is typical of Zareski, I wonder if he was not the perpetrator of this fraud which his co-author Mr. Herst, advertizes that he will offer at auction at West Palm Beach, Florida on November 2nd next? I also wonder if this fake cover will be accompanied by a certificate of genuineness issued by the "Expert Committee" of the Philatelic Foundation, New York City.

AN ABSURD PIECE OF WORK

Zareski is perfectly aware of the fact that many U. S. dealers and collectors require only one thing in a "rare cover," viz., that the stamp or stamps be securely tied. They seem to be ignorant of the fact that it is comparatively easy to have a fraudulent postmark manufactured and to securely "tie" a stamp to a cover. Postal markings mean nothing to many people and yet they were stamped on the original letter with a very definite purpose, not for mere decoration.

Consider this silly "30¢ '69" fake which Mr. Herst stated was one of "two of the better items being illustrated." It has a French hand-stamped "8" in black. This was the French postage due of "8" decimes on a letter sent from the U. S. of not over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes ($\frac{1}{4}$ oz.) with no payment. If this letter had had any payment in the U. S. the postage would have been only 15¢, hence there was no payment and the equivalent of 15¢, or 8 decimes was the postage due. How utterly absurd to put a 30¢ stamp on such a stampless cover. And further, on such an unpaid piece of mail the U. S. P.O.D. debited France with the U. S. share of the "8" decimes collected and such a New York debit postmark on an unpaid letter was applied in black as per terms of the U.S.-French Postal Treaty. Thus we find on this piece of stampless mail, the New York postmark in black with a debit of "9" or 9¢. This letter was carried to England at the expense of the U. S. (Am. Pkt), hence our share of the 15¢ rate (per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.) was 3¢ "internal" and 6¢ "sea." Thus our debit of 9¢. Had 30¢ been paid, as M. Zareski(?) would have the uninformed believe, why did we debit France 9¢ out of the 15¢ France collected by the "8" decimes? Thus U. S. postal markings on foreign mail had a definite purpose - They indicated to the receiving office whether a rate had been paid, the sum, the debit or credit, the route, etc., etc.

"WHERE IGNORANCE IS BLISS - 'TIS FOLLY TO BE WISE"

Apparently such information as portrayed by the markings mean absolutely nothing to a Zareski, or to certain dealers in America who offer such trash, and in many cases to members of Expert Committees, such as that of the Philatelic Foundation of New York City or the Royal of London.

SUBMITTED BY A PARIS DEALER

Back in the spring of 1955, M. Jamet, a dealer of Paris, France, was preparing an auction sale of philatelic material for a sale he held in June of that year. Mr. Jamet forwarded to me sixteen U. S. covers scheduled for that sale for my examination, and authentication, and among the lot was this fake 30¢ 1869 Herst cover. As I recall, about half of the covers were fraudulent and upon my advice were not included in the sale. In addition to this fake 30¢ '69 cover, there were three other faked 1869 covers. All four of these were covers from New Orleans addressed to,

THOMAS LA CHAMBRE & CO.
HAVRE, FRANCE

One of these four La Chambre covers was a fake that I illustrated by photograph No. 20 in the September 10, 1951 Issue of this Service (page #29 - please refer to it). This fake was a stampless to which had been added and tied a 24¢ 1869, and two 3¢ 1869 stamps. (30¢)

THE HERST FAKE

Photograph No. 262 illustrates the Herst cover that was illustrated in "Stamps" issue of September 15, 1956. This is a photo I made early in April 1955. This was a folded letter dated inside New Orleans, Aug. 7, 1869.

Photograph No. 263 illustrates the third "La Chambre" cover in the Jamet lot. This fake was originally a stampless sent unpaid, a double rate - over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of 30¢. It was a folded letter from New Orleans on Aug. 17, 1869. The French postage due was 16 decimes or 30¢. The black New York postmark has a debit of "24" or 24¢ which was 2 x 12¢. This letter was transmitted direct to France, (Cherbourg) by "Amer. Pkt." (at the expense of the U.S. P.O.D.), hence our share of the total rate was all but the French internal of 2 x 3¢. Note the nice little "flower" that "ties" the 15¢ 1869. New Orleans never used any such a "killer."

Photograph No. 264 illustrates the fourth "La Chambre" cover in the Jamet lot. This has a 10¢ 1869 stamp and was originally a stampless cover, a folded letter forwarded unpaid from New Orleans on May 4, 1869 to Havre. The New York postmark is in black (unpaid) and shows a debit to France of 24¢ the same as the cover above, #263. The New York date is May 11, 1869. The French due marking is also "16" decimes or 30¢ (2 x 15). The French receiving postmark is an error as it indicates this letter was transmitted to France in a French Packet. Had this been the case the U. S. debit would have been only 6¢ (2 x 3) rather than the "24." Further, my official records show that no French Packet sailed from New York on May 11, 1869, but rather a ship of the Hamburg-American Line carried this letter direct to Havre, sailing from New York on May 11, 1869.

WARNING

Be very careful in purchasing foreign rate covers addressed to the French firm of "Thomas La Chambre & Co., Havre, France. This correspondence had many stampless covers from the U. S. to which fakers added stamps as above. However, there were also many covers with stamps that are perfectly genuine.

ANOTHER FAKE 30¢ 1869 COVER

Photograph No. 265 illustrates a faked cover with a 30¢ 1869 stamp "tied" by a "flower cancel" somewhat similar to the one on cover #263, except that the latter has seven petals, whereas #265 has six.

Cover #265 was Lot #527 in a sale of the Dr. W. L. Babcock collection by Laurence & Stryker on Oct. 18, 1943. The buyer at that time sent it to me for my examination and being informed it was a fake, it was returned. Later it came up in a sale by Harmer Rooke & Co. as Lot 102 on Sept. 14, 1954. Upon advice by me that the cover was bad, it was withdrawn. Within the past 30 days it was again submitted to me by a prospective buyer. It keeps me busy keeping track of all the fake items in circulation.

Originally this faked cover surely had a 10¢ Bank Note stamp, no doubt a National without grill. The French year dates show "70" but in my opinion, the use was not 1870 but more probably 1873. The faker changed all the year dates in the postmarks from "73" to "70." The crooks do this in such a clever manner that in many cases no apparent trace remains of the original year date. The New Orleans date line with the year was torn off.

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ASHBROOK SPECIAL SERVICE

ISSUE NO. 68 - NOVEMBER 1, 1956 (Sixth Series - 1956-1957)

JUST A REMINDER

I am not unmindful of the fact that subscribers to this Service, all of whom I trust are my very good and valued friends, get a bit bored at times with my constant reference to fraudulent items. It is indeed a distasteful subject but I believe I am rendering decent philately a valuable service, not only for the present but for the future. The chances are that the facts regarding "fixed items" that I am recording in these issues will live long after I have passed away and will serve as a warning to honest, right-thinking and serious students of U. S. postal history of the future. So please bear with me and realize that perhaps the portions of these Service Issues which might bore you may perhaps be of real benefit to students and serious collectors of the future.

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

Perhaps some will not agree with my sharp criticism of the so-called "Expert Committee" of the Philatelic Foundation of New York City. I wonder which is best, to have a committee that is notoriously incompetent or to have no expert committee at all. I believe that this Committee of amateurs, is aiding and abetting the philatelic criminals by pronouncing their faked material as genuine, therefore, I think American philately would be better and more honestly served if this Committee would cease to exist, or at least, to base their certificates on something more reliable than pure guess-work.

AGAIN THE 30¢ 1869 FAKE COVER
being offered by Herman Herst, Jr.

In last month's issue of this Service I described a fraudulent cover with a 30¢ 1869 which was illustrated in an advertisement in "STAMPS," issue of September 15th last.

I now have before me a copy of an auction catalogue issued by Herman Herst for a sale to be held by him at West Palm Beach, Fla., on November 2, 1956, and on the front is an illustration of this absurd piece of cover faking, a stampless cover that was sent from New Orleans to France unpaid and to which some crook added a 30¢ 1869 stamp, but the amazing part of this fake is the fact that the "Expert Committee(?)" of the Philatelic Foundation, New York City, issued a certificate stating that this faked cover was genuine.

HOW PERFECTLY RIDICULOUS

This stampless cover with a 30¢ added, is described in the Herst auction catalogue as follows: "37. (cover). #121, 30¢ 1869 V.F. single. Rich

colors centered, tied to perfect cover, New Orleans, to France, FOUNDATION certificate. (Photo, front cover) \$300.00" (unquote)

In last month's issue I furnished a photograph of this cover (#262) and gave a complete analysis of it.

"AN EXPERT COMMITTEE"

Just imagine any committee posing as experts being so ignorant of U. S. postal markings to declare such a fake was "genuine in all respects." Seriously doubting that such could possibly be the case I wrote to Herst requesting him to send the P.F. certificate to me so that I could be sure. He refused to do so. I then wrote the Foundation inquiring if a certificate of genuineness had been issued on this cover. Mr. Boggs, of the P.F., informed me that the Herst statement was true. If Zareski faked this cover what must he think of such "Experts?" I wonder? If that Committee is so utterly incompetent as to authenticate such an obvious fake, then any certificate that they would issue is not worth the paper upon which it is printed.

-----RIDICULOUS-----

Here was a stampless cover sent unpaid from New Orleans to France to which a Zareski added a 30¢ 1869 stamp, and the Experts at the Foundation issued a certificate stating this fake was "genuine" not in one "respect" but in "all respects." Bear in mind that this fake with its 30¢ 1869 stamp has a French due marking of "8" decimes, or approximately 15¢ in U. S. money. If 30¢ had been paid in the U. S. why would 15¢ have been due in France? I suppose the "Experts" guessed that the rate might have been 45¢ with 30¢ paid and 15¢ due, but if they guessed in this manner they were ignorant of the most basic feature of U.S.-French Mail, viz., that no partial payments were recognized.

"EXPERTS"

This Committee by such silly "expertizing" makes a perfect mockery of serious philatelic research work. What incentive is there for the aspiring student of the present day to acquire knowledge of our postal history, rates of postage, the meaning of our postal markings and all that goes into such a study when committees such as this one makes a regular laughing-stock of such work. Any bunch of grade school stamp collectors could do just as well. Such an incompetent committee plays right into the hands of the Zareski's and the crooks who befoul this wonderful avocation that we call philately.

In one of the early issues of this Service I exposed the Knapp 1847 cover. Here was a case of a rank fake that this "Expert" Committee declared to be genuine in every respect. Originally this cover had a lone 5¢ 1847. Some crook added a 10¢ '47 - painted a "1" before the "5" in the Philadelphia postmark and thus was born a "very rare" 5¢ plus 10¢ 1847 cover. Philadelphia never used such a postmark but this meant nothing to the P. F. "Expert" Committee.

THE ARMITAGE 90¢ 1869 FAKED COVER

Then there is the case of the faked Armitage cover that "Colson of Boston" has been trying to sell for some years to some sucker because the fake has a "Foundation certificate." Here is a cover that was originally a 42¢ rate to India (2 x 21¢) paid by a 12¢ 1857 and a 30¢ 1860. Some crook, in my opinion, removed the 12¢ and placed it down in the lower left corner and in its place he put a 90¢ 1860, and thus was born a "very rare" 90¢ 1860 cover for which "Colson of Boston" is asking some fabulous price, so I have been reliably informed. There was no such a rate of \$1.32 to India and the markings prove this statement. Of course, I have no way of knowing whether Colson believes his Armitage cover is a rank fake or that it is genuine. If the latter, then he is a bigger fool than I have always considered him to be.

LINN'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS

In Linn's Weekly, Issue of October 15th, 1956, the Editor, George W. Linn, had an editorial regarding the printed "Terms of Sale" in present day auction catalogues, and he advised buyers at auction sales to read carefully and abide by the "Terms of Sale" when purchasing material at auction sales, either in person, thru an agent, or by mail.

In this connection, I recall distinctly a case where a prominent collector purchased a 30¢ 1869 cover in the Emerson Sale in October 1937 by Kelleher. Six months after the sale, the buyer sent the cover to me for my examination. I proved that it was a clever fake, that the folded letter written in French had been penned five months before any 1869 stamps had been issued. The buyer made a request for a refund from the Emerson Estate and upon advice from Mr. Kelleher it was promptly forthcoming. This was six months after the sale, and no extension had been requested at the time the lot was delivered and paid for.

EXPERTIZING U. S. FOREIGN RATE COVERS

The collecting and specialization of U. S. covers of the 19th Century to foreign countries is today one of the most popular specialized fields of U. S. philately. And I might add, that the study of such material is a very complicated and difficult avocation. The thorough student requires not only a knowledge of the stamp used - the period that they were in use, but rates of postage at the time, postal treaties, and vastly important, a thorough knowledge of the postal markings, what the meaning was of each one and the relationship of each to others on a cover. One may have an elaborate laboratory such as the late Souren possessed, but while all such costly equipment is of great assistance it is absolutely useless unless the student has the necessary knowledge so absolutely essential to a study of the item under a careful examination. I mentioned above as one of the first requirements of a study of U. S. foreign rate covers was a knowledge of the stamps on the cover. I will be a bit specific. For example, here is a cover showing a 35¢ rate to France in April of 1858, the stamps are a strip of three of the 10¢ 1857 and a single 5¢ 1857 Brick Red. To the thorough and careful student two things would appear wrong at first glance, viz., that there was no such a thing as a rate

of 35¢ to France in 1858, and that the 5¢ 1857 Brick Red was not issued as early as April of 1858. Thus a basic knowledge of the rates to France and the correct period of use of the stamps.

IN WHAT SHOULD I SPECIALIZE?

I am frequently asked that question by collectors who have the urge to specialize and to explore new fields of U. S. Should I collect the forty-sevens, the sixty-nines, the bank notes, or stampless? Should I plate the One Cent, Fifty-ones or the Three Cents? To such may I suggest - "U. S. Foreign Rate Covers." To those accepting my suggestion, I warn that this category is a most difficult study, one that cannot be learned in a year or two but that in time the reward in philatelic knowledge will be very great and the study most interesting.

AN EXAMPLE OF THE STUDY OF A FOREIGN RATE COVER

Photograph No. 271 illustrates a cover that was sent to me recently for an analysis of rate, markings and postal route that it traveled. It is a cover from the well-known "Pierce correspondence" to St. Petersburg, Russia. I recall that there were some nice covers from this Pierce correspondence in the Gibson Sale by Ward in 1944. This cover was from Portland, Me., on October 9, 1865 and it shows a 24¢ 1861 lilac and a 10¢ 1861 Type II, also that a stamp to the left of the 24¢ is missing. What was that stamp? What was the original rate of this cover? Did it weigh $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., or did it weigh less? Well, one thing is sure, the markings on the cover will supply the answers. First, what were the rates of postage to Russia in October of 1865? The officially listed rates were as follows:

By Prussian Closed Mail	Prepaid - 35¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
" " " "	Unpaid - 37¢ " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
" Bremen or Hamburg Mail	- 39¢ " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
" French Mail	- 30¢ " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
" " " "	- 60¢ " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

TO RUSSIA IN 1865

In the bottom left corner the writer routed his letter "Per Prussian Closed Mail" so the chances are that he put stamps on to pay that 35¢ rate, hence the stamp that is missing was surely a 1¢ 1861, and it must have been insecurely attached to the envelope before it reached Europe, because there is a boxed foreign marking in the place the 1¢ stamp originally occupied. In all probability the less careful student would assume that the above explanation would be the end of the story, viz., a 35¢ rate for a $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. letter by "Prussian Closed Mail." However, that conclusion would be incorrect because the letter was not despatched by "P.C.M." and it did not weigh over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce.

Mail by "P.C.M." was despatched in sealed bags (thus closed) to England, thence across Channel to Ostend, Belgium, and to Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle) in Prussia. Here the bags were opened, the mail postmarked "Aachen" (rectangle frame) and sent on its way. This cover does not have an "Aachen" marking, but on the contrary it has a double circle French marking

which reads, "ET-UNIS-SERV-BR-A.C.-C" and in center "27-OCT-65," which translated means, from the U. S. by British Packet to England and thence thru Calais to France, all of which means that the letter was not sent in a sealed bag via "P.M.C." but rather by "FRENCH MAIL." Inasmuch as there are no French Due markings, the letter was fully paid, which is confirmed by the French applied framed "PD" (paid to destination) in the spot originally occupied by the 1¢ 1861 stamp. The $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce rate by French Mail was not only paid, but was overpaid by 4¢, (after loss of the 1¢ stamp). The French circular marking shows that the letter was conveyed from the U. S. to England by a British Packet, hence the U. S. share of the 30¢ rate was only 3¢, hence there must have been a credit to France on this letter of 27¢. We then search the cover for this "27" and find it in the upper left corner in red pencil.

This cover has two postmarks of Portland, Maine, one the large double circle postmark in black that was used on domestic mail, with date of "Oct. 9 65." The other is one of the Portland "Foreign Exchange" markings and is in "red" because this letter was fully paid. It reads, "PORTLAND ME. OCT 13."

THE PORTLAND, ME. EXCHANGE OFFICE

Portland, Me. was established as an exchange office for foreign mails under "Additional Articles" to the U.S.-British Treaty by signature dated of Jan. 11th and Feb. 3rd, 1859. "Article I" of the "Additional Articles" reads as follows, quote: "There shall be established, on the part of the United States, a new office of exchange at Portland, for the exchange of United States and European mails with the British offices of Liverpool and London, by means of United States, British or Canadian mail packets, plying between Liverpool and Portland." (unquote)

The large double circle marking in blue at right was a foreign marking dated 28/10 or "Oct 28" some 15 days after the letter left Portland. One thing more, in the extreme top left is a black pencil "30" probably put there by the Portland, P.O. clerk when he decided to hold the letter for four days and then forward it "By French Mail" at 30¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.

A 10¢ '47 USED FROM MONTREAL

Photograph #272 illustrates a genuine use of a 10¢ '47 from Canada to New York in 1851. This is a cover from the famous Kennedy find. D. S. Kennedy, in the eighteen-forties and fifties, conducted a banking institution in Wall St., New York and his bank was the fiscal agent and financial representative in this country of the Canadian Government.

There are several unusual features about this cover that make it especially interesting and desirable, as a very fine item in this category. For example, the stamp is tied tight by a genuine in all respects strike of the Montreal postmark and this is dated "JY 28 1851" (July). This together with the slightly curved "PAID" and the framed "Canada" are all in the same orange red ink. A Montreal rate stamp of "6D" was canceled out with the seven-ring Montreal target cancel, both in black.

A remarkable thing about this cover is that the 10¢ '47 was recognized both at Montreal and New York, the latter in spite of the fact the U.S. Postmaster General had declared the 1847 stamps no longer valid for postal use after June 30, 1851.

The postal treaty with Canada of March 1851 provided rates of 10¢ from the U. S. and 6 pence (6^D) from Canada, (for distances up to 3,000 miles). Both countries to retain all postages collected. In the case of this cover, the Montreal Post Office should have marked the letter as entirely unpaid with "6^D" (or 10¢) due on delivery. This was done but later the letter was marked "PAID" at Montreal and the "6^D" (due - black) was canceled out and the 10¢ '47 was recognized and postmarked. Very remarkable indeed, because the Canadian P.O. Dept. received no postage payment for their handling of this letter. We wonder if it was because it was addressed to their fiscal agent in the U.S.? We also wonder why the New York P.O. recognized the 10¢ stamp, first, because it was a stamp which had been declared invalid for postal use, and second, because it had arrived at the New York office in used condition, i.e., canceled outside of the U.S. I believe the features I have mentioned make this a most unusual and interesting gem.

Canadian Postal Regulations of April 1852, contained the following under "Clause 83," quote: "No other stamps than those issued by the Canada Post Office Department are to be taken in this Province in prepayment of letters posted within the same." (unquote)

In the Caspary Sale last January 16, 17 and 18, lot 118 was a Kennedy cover from Montreal in Feb. 1850 with two 5¢ 1847 stamps. This cover had the Canadian postage paid (by charge) and the two 5¢ '47 paid the U. S. postage (from the Line). It is not in the same category as the above described cover. However, lot 119 in that sale is similar. It was an "E. D. Morgan" cover from Montreal on May 2, 1851, with a pair of the 5¢ 1847 canceled with the Montreal target in black. Though this pair was apparently recognized as paying the through rate, Canada received no payment of postage and the 5¢ 1847 pair was valid for U. S. postage at that time.

Lot 172 in the Caspary Sale was a "Morgan" cover from Montreal in March 1851 with a 10¢ 1847. The Canadian postage was "paid to the Lines" by charge to box account and the 10¢ '47 paid the U. S. postage from the "Line" to New York.

Lot 173 in that Caspary Sale was quite a different proposition, because here was a "Morgan" cover with a 10¢ 1847 from Montreal canceled there by the black target and the folded letter postmarked Sept. 4, 1851. A cover very similar to the Kennedy cover photo herewith, No. 272. A late use of the 10¢ '47 at a time the stamp was invalid for postal use, a piece of mail for the transit of which the Canadian P.O. Dept. received no payment. The three markings are all in the same orange red ink, viz., curved "Canada" - curved "Paid" and the familiar type of Montreal postmark. Here is a perfect gem of a cover and a mate to the one illustrated by photo #272.

Incidentally, I suppose I have mentioned before that "E. D. Morgan" of the

mercantile firm of E. D. Morgan & Co. of New York City was later Governor of the State of New York and to him was due perhaps more than any other influential Eastern man of his day, the election of Abraham Lincoln to the presidency of the U. S.

PHILATELIC AMERICANA

I regard a cover such as the above Caspary-Morgan cover in the same class of some great work of art. It may never bring a million dollars or a tenth of that sum but the sum that it brought at the Caspary Sale will look like a gift twenty-five to fifty years hence. There is not one chance in ten thousand that this prediction could be wrong unless, of course, the world comes to an end.

CANADA 3 PENCE BEAVER PLUS U. S. 3¢ 1851
COMBINATION USE

Photograph No. 273 illustrates a cover with a combination use from Canada of a Canadian 3 pence beaver and a U. S. 3¢ 1851, the former to pay the Canadian postage, the latter to pay the U. S. This was a use in 1856 from the town of Dundas in "U.C." (Upper Canada). The treaty rate was 10¢ to Canada or 6 pence (currency) from Canada, thus 6 pence was equivalent to 10¢ U. S. and the 3 p. beaver the equivalent of 5¢, hence the U. S. equivalent on this cover was 8¢, not 10¢. The office at Dundas, U. C. in accordance with the 1852 Regulation did not recognize this combination use and rated the letter as entirely unpaid with "6D" or 10¢ due in the U. S.

In lower right is the marking "Canada 10 CTS" which was applied at the "Line," that is, at one of the U. S. offices which exchanged mail with Canada. This was notification to the New York Post Office that 10¢ should be collected from the addressee, however, it appears that the New York P.O. disregarded this and rated the letter as paid. There was a 3¢ 1851 which was the regular U. S. rate from the "Line" at that time so why tax the addressee 10¢? Both stamps were canceled with Canadian target cancels, thus recognition of a U. S. stamp canceled outside our borders.

This cover was Lot 41 in the 5th Caspary Sale of October 9th last and sold at \$800.00. Quite a remarkable and rare cover.

SAN FRANCISCO TO LIMA, PERU 1866

Photograph No. 274 illustrates a blue folded letter from San Francisco on Aug. 18, 1866 to Lima, Peru and addressed to Thomas La Chambrey & Co. I call attention to the fact that the faked 30¢ 1869 cover that Herman Herst, Jr. is scheduled to sell at auction at West Palm Beach, Fla. on Nov. 2, 1956 is addressed to this same firm at Havre, France. I, therefore, assume that the Lima, Peru firm was a branch of that of Havre. The faked 15¢ 1869 cover, No. 263 and the faked 10¢ 1869 cover, No. 264, are also "La Chambrey" covers.

The cover to Lima shows 1861 stamps as follows: two 30¢, two 10¢ and

a 3¢, total postage 83¢. However, there was no such a rate or multiple of such a rate to Peru in 1866. In that year, mail from San Francisco to Peru was sent by U. S. mail steamship to Panama City, and there turned over to the British for transmission south along the west coast of South America. The single rate per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce was 22¢ at that time, and the U. S. share was the "Steamship 10¢ Rate" to Panama, and the British S. S. rate was 6 pence, or 12¢ U. S. (10¢ plus 12¢ = 22¢).

In red pencil below the stamps is "4 - 88 - 48," which translated, meant "4 times rate" - "total 88" - credit to the British postal system "48" (4 x 6 pence). Thus this cover shows short payment of 5¢. This could mean that a 5¢ 1863 stamp is missing or that the cover had been "fixed" in some way. It is good practice to look twice at a "La Chambrey" cover as it may have passed thru the repair shop of Herman Herst's friend and co-author Michel Zareski of Paris.

The British Panama marking on this cover is "SP 1 1866." While the stamps are canceled with the San Francisco target in use at that office in 1866, none are actually tied to the cover.

There is a story behind the "La Chambrey find." It seems that after the death of the head of the French family that a junk man was called in and instructed to get rid of some of the bales of old letters in the cellar. Taking some of these to the dump the man noticed stamps on "some" of the old letters so he took a batch to a stamp dealer and received a surprising sum. The next batch brought more from the next dealer and the third even more from another. With all this newly acquired wealth the junk man got so gloriously drunk that he lost his job and wound up a suicide. Can we place any blame on Zareski for the junk man's sad ending? I wonder?

A 3¢.1861 PRECANCEL, AND A REASON FOR SAME

Photograph #275 illustrates a very interesting cover showing the use of a "precanceled 3¢ 1861 rose," a use from Albany, N.Y. on "Sep 29," - no evidence of year use, to Seneca Falls, N.Y.

The gray printed State envelope was one of the State of New York, "Department of Public Instruction." Due to the theft of postage stamps from the State, an arrangement was made between state officials and the Albany postmaster whereby postage stamps belonging to the State and precanceled would be honored at the Albany Post Office when used on State envelopes. If a stamp was used otherwise it was not recognized for postal use. A similar arrangement was employed at the State Capitol of Pennsylvania, between state officials and the Harrisburg, Pa. postmaster. I described some of these in the Second Issue of this Service dated June 18, 1951 on pages 7 and 8 and furnished photographs Nos. 5 and 6.

END OF ISSUE NO. 68
NOVEMBER 1, 1956
Sixth Series of 1956-1957
Five (5) photographs accompany this issue
Nos. 271, 272, 273, 274 and 275.

TO THE GOOD FRIENDS:

Due to the effect of these measures, which in-
spectors do for the past week, the Director of
of the STATE is not able to do anything

And I am not going to do anything for the State
able to do anything for the State

Yours truly,

John P. Blawie

John P. Blawie

December 10, 1900

ASHEROOK SPECIAL SERVICE

ISSUE NO. 69 - DECEMBER 1, 1956 (Sixth Series 1956-1957)

FRAUDULENT COVERS

In last month's issue of this Service on page 546 I mentioned that I was perhaps taking up too much space from month to month with descriptions of faked covers. One subscriber and valued friend wrote me as follows, quote: "Since reading the November issue of your Service I have wanted to write you on your policy of discussing and analyzing faked covers. I want to be listed among those who very much want you to continue. The fact is that I can learn more from such a discussion than from several discussions of genuine covers plus the fact that I can recognize and avoid buying both the items discussed and others which are similarly doctored, at least avoid buying them as genuine. I surely hope you never permit yourself to be swayed by the pollyanna attitude some collectors try to promote. And you surely are doing the right thing in crossing swords with the Philatelic Foundation when they certify a fake, or condemn the genuine. Whether it is better to have the present Expert Committee or none I am not prepared to state, but it is a cruel mockery to have them issue certificates without knowing or determining the facts. Collectors are inevitably misled until the growing realization among collectors of the facts will discredit the Foundation entirely." (unquote)

AN EXAMPLE OF HOW IT WORKS

A prominent dealer reported the following incident to me this week. A collector of moderate means was offered by a dealer certain items that were missing in his collection. He informed the seller that he would buy them provided a P. F. certificate accompanied them. This was done and the certificate read that in the opinion of the Committee the stamps were genuine in every respect. This was several years ago. My dealer friend was recently going thru the collection and expressed the opinion that the stamps were fraudulent regardless of the P. F. certificate and suggested that they be submitted to the Committee with no intimation that they had previously been passed upon. This was done and a certificate was issued stating the stamps were bad. If anyone doubts the accuracy of this incident I am prepared to furnish details. Can the collector obtain a refund from the seller? What do you think?

This is a bit of dirty linen I am washing out on the front steps but it is better to do it there than down in a dark corner of the cellar.

A KENNEDY 10¢ 1847 COVER FROM MONTREAL

In the April 1955 Issue of this Service I described a 10¢ 1847 cover from Montreal, addressed to D. S. Kennedy, Esq., Wall St., New York and furnished a photograph of it number 200. Please refer to it and my remarks regarding it on page #390 of this Service.

This was a cover in the collection of the late Harold W. Stark of Ann Arbor, Mich. For the past year I have been dispersing the Stark collection for the Estate and because I could not authenticate this cover I advised the Estate to sell it "as is" at a price in line with a pencanceled 10¢ 1847 stamp that had faults. On the Stark album page or cover there was no memorandum from whom the cover was obtained but there was a memo of "\$375.00" which may or may not have indicated the cost to Mr. Stark. Please note the main features of this cover, viz:

- 1) The Montreal postmark is "MONTREAL-MAR. 5. 1850 PAID-CANADA."
- 2) "10" in circle - red.
- 3) In Mss "PAID TO THE LINES."
- 4) Stamp canceled with wavy pen line.

Recently I was searching thru a lot of old auction catalogues for covers used from Canada to New York with 1847 stamps and stumbled across the following Lot #35 in the Emerson Sale of June 11, 1938, which was described as follows, quote:

"#35 - 10¢ gray black used on cover from CANADA TO N.Y. CITY handstamped 'MONTREAL - PAID - MAR. 5, 1850 - CANADA' and '10' in circle in red and marked in addition in mss, 'PAID TO THE LINES.' The stamp just tied with the usual wavy pen line, very fine, rare." (unquote)

I note that Lot #35 was withdrawn from that sale. Perhaps someone questioned it and it was not sold. In my discussion of this cover on page #390 of this Service I stated, quote: This stamp may have been used originally on this cover and it may not have been. There is no positive evidence that it was not, nor is there any positive evidence that it was." And also, quote: "I would have more faith in this cover if the pen marking was in blue ink rather than in black but I know of no evidence that the New York (P.O.) used blue ink on every occasion and did not use black." (unquote)

AGAIN THAT FRAUDULENT 30¢ 1869 HERMAN HERST COVER

In the October Issue of this Service on page #537, I called attention to a full page advertisement by Herman Herst, Jr. in "STAMPS" last September, illustrating a 30¢ 1869 cover to be sold by him at auction on November 2, 1956 at West Palm Beach, Fla. Incidentally, the illustration shows pencil marks on the cover made by me at top right reading, "Letter - 7 AUG - 69," which I made at the time I examined and photographed this faked cover for M. Jamet of Paris, France in March 1955, at which time I informed Jamet it was a fake and that it was originally a stampless unpaid to which the 30¢ stamp had been added by some fixer. The Herst catalogue stated the cover had a "Foundation certificate."

THE HERST FAKE WITHDRAWN

I have been reliably informed that this fraudulent cover was withdrawn from the Herst Sale and is now in the hands of the P. F. "Expert Committee" for re-examination.

3¢ 1861 PIGEON BLOOD

I quote as follows from page #531 of the September last Issue of this Service, in a discussion of the 3¢ 1861 pigeon blood pink: "I have a memorandum in my files that in 1935 (21 years ago) the late Steve Brown showed me a cover in his collection with a most remarkable and beautiful deep pigeon blood used from Cleveland, Ohio, on Oct. 25, 1861, to New Lyme, Ohio.

The Stephen Brown collection was sold after his death by Harmer Rooke & Co., Oct. 30th - Nov. 4th, 1939, and this cover was Lot #1028 in the sale and described as follows, quote: "3¢ pink, another wonderful copy in a slightly darker shade, (than lot #1027) tied by black grid cancellation to immaculate cover." (unquote) It was not illustrated. The sale price was only \$51.00 and it was purchased by "MRC." I marked Lot #1028 as "Superb pigeon blood" and that was certainly true.

I judge the buyer "MRC" was "Mr. C." or Mr. Caspary as this cover is in the Caspary collection today and will doubtless come up in a Caspary sale this fall. Note the description above - a 'darker shade.' Whoever obtains this gem will acquire a superb cover and a gorgeous copy of the 'dark or deep pigeon blood.' I would be quite surprised if it would be possible to find a finer example. So if anyone would like to know what a fine deep pigeon blood looks like, this cover is the answer. This cover was purchased by Brown from Kelleher in 1933 for \$125.00." (unquote)

Word has come to me that in some quarters I have been criticised for discussing covers that were due to come up at auction. That such action on my part had a tendency to run up prices, and that same was to the disadvantage of subscribers to this Service. I am sincere and honest in stating that such a thing never occurred to me, as my whole desire has been to share with my subscriber friends what knowledge I may have of interesting and unusual items in 19th Century U. S.

The above described Brown cover with a 3¢ 1861 pigeon blood came up in the Caspary sale on November 19th last as Lot #58 and realized the unheard of price of \$975.00. I haven't the faintest idea as to the identity of the buyer. The cover was described as follows: "58 - 3¢ deep 'pigeon blood.' A brilliant and extremely fine copy. Tied by neat CLEVELAND, O. OCT. 25, 1861 and grid duplex cancellation to a small neat light buff envelope to New Lyme, O. A wonderful stamp and cover - (From the 'Stephen D. Brown' collection)." (unquote)

In the future I will very carefully refrain from discussing any items that I am aware may come up at some future auction.

WHEN IS A BISECT NOT A BISECT?

My answer to the above query is, "When it failed to pay the provisional rate intended." For example, a letter mailed from an office with a half of a 12¢ 1851 which the receiving office marked, "Due 10." Such a letter from or to the East or California in the 1851-1855 period when the rate

between the East and Far West (Via Panama) was 6¢ per single ($\frac{1}{2}$ oz.) PAID, or 10¢ if not paid. Quite a few post offices thruout the country used postmarks with date in center (month and day) with "10 CTS" at bottom on unpaid mail. Such postmarks saved the necessity of applying two markings, viz., the regular postmark plus a due marking such as "DUE 10." I maintain that a cover with a "bisect" the latter not recognized at either the mailing or delivery office is nothing more than a stampless unpaid cover, the bisect, merely a freak, a decoration or what-have-you. In other words, as a philatelic item, a tobacco tag would have served the same postal service. No whole or partial rate was paid.

WHY BISECTS?

Consider the use of diagonal halves of the 12¢ 1851 at the San Francisco Post Office during August and early September of 1853. My study of numerous "bisect" covers forwarded East Via Panama or the Nicaragua Route during that period indicates that the San Francisco office ran out of 3¢ stamps (1851) and permitted the public to use diagonal halves of the 12¢ 1851 on mail to the East. I think it quite possible that sheets of the 12¢ were cut up in that way (diagonal halves) and such halves were sold over the counter at the post office as 6¢ stamps. Were it otherwise, I think we would find vertical or horizontal halves of the 12¢ but in my extensive record I do not have even one example of such a use.

I have a record of various "BISECT covers" from San Francisco to the East from August 1st to September 16th, 1853 which show recognition of the 6¢ splits at the San Francisco office, but when some of these were received at destinations the postmasters refused to recognize the half 12¢ stamps. My belief is that a number of postmasters at such delivery offices wrote to the Post Office Department at Washington and inquired if they should recognize the half stamps, or rate such mail as entirely unpaid.

CONCERNING "PARTS OF POSTAGE STAMPS"

In a circular concerning "POSTAGE - STAMP ENVELOPES," Numbered 25 and dated "November 10th, 1853," Postmaster General James Campbell stated, quote: "If the stamp be cut out of, or separated from the envelope on which it was made, the legal value of both is destroyed; NEITHER DOES THE LAW AUTHORIZE THE USE OF PARTS OF POSTAGE STAMPS IN PREPAYMENT OF POSTAGE." (unquote) I believe that the extensive use of 12¢ '51 splits at San Francisco on Eastern mail by the Ocean Mail during August and September of 1853 caused Postmaster General Campbell to issue the above order.

APPARENTLY A TYPICAL EXAMPLE

I have before me an auction catalogue issued by "J. F. Hughes - Philatelic Broker" of San Francisco for a sale scheduled for November 29, 1956. On page 19 is an illustration of "Lot 97." This shows a cover with a 12¢ '51 upper diagonal half apparently tied at left end by a strike of the large type Boston "PAID in grid." The cover is addressed to San Francisco and at right is a Boston postmark reading, "BOSTON-4 JAN-10 CTS." The year given as 1854. Surely Boston was not out of 3¢ stamps or stamped envelopes at that period so why should a person have resorted to using a piece of a

12¢ 1851 adhesive on a letter to San Francisco? I have never seen this cover, hence I have no knowledge as to whether the 12¢ split was put on by the writer or not, but assuming the half of a 12¢ was actually used, as the illustration shows, it is quite evident in my opinion that the Boston Post Office refused to recognize the piece of stamp and marked the letter with the postmark stamper with "10 CTS" - or "Due 10 CTS." I believe the postmark on the Hughes cover is the type illustrated in the fine book by Maurice C. Blake entitled, "BOSTON POSTAL MARKINGS." See Plate 30, page 123, figure 539. In my book on the One Cent 1851-57, Volume 2, on page 128, I illustrated by "C" a similar Boston postmark that was used on unpaid mail with 10¢ DUE.

The Hughes auction description reads as follows, quote:

"97-(cover) - 12¢ black, bisected and beautifully tied by black PAID in grid, from Boston to San Francisco. The very fine example of the extremely rare and quite probably unique East to West bisect dated January 4 - (1854). The lot is accompanied by an affidavit of the Titcomb family relating to the discovery of this cover in the family effects, included is another cover of the same correspondence, showing two 3¢ stamps. This is a slightly earlier date. Offered with certificate of the Philatelic Foundation. See Photo #17A." (unquote)

Several of my friends inquired regarding my opinion of this cover. I believe a "bisect cover" should show that the piece of stamp paid the rate. If it did not, then as stated above, a tobacco tag would have served the same purpose of decoration. In addition, if the P.F. issued a certificate of genuineness on the above cover it is my opinion that it should have emphasized the fact that the piece of a 12¢ 1851 did not pay any rate of postage, and that the cover was in the same category of an unpaid stampless from Boston to San Francisco with "10 CTS" due. I have been advised that the above cover realized the sum of \$475.00. No comment.

"OLD STAMPS" RECOGNIZED AT NEW YORK

In the issue of STAMPS for December 1, 1956 (Vol. 97 - No. 9 - 1264), appeared an article under the above heading by Mr. Morris Fortgang, which I can highly recommend to all my friends.

One wonders why the New York postmaster continued to recognize the use of the old stamps long after Washington had instructed him not to do so. I can back up Mr. Fortgang's article with this statement - I have never seen a cover with the old stamps that was refused recognition at the New York Post Office. Strange but true.

For my remarks on this subject please refer to the April 1, 1956 Issue of this Service, pages 489 and 490 and photograph #250.

IT IS THE STORY BEHIND THE COVER

Photograph No. 276 illustrates a cover (white envelope) with two H.S. of 3 of the U. S. 1¢ 1851 - Type IV, tied by three strikes of a blue Baltimore postmark, addressed to "Jacksonville, East Florida." There is no evidence

of the year use, but I judge it was the middle eighteen fifties. I suppose the average collector would consider that this was just another cover showing a double rate paid by two one cent '51 strips. However, below the strips in manuscript is

"DUE 2"

Why Due 2? Why should a letter from Baltimore to Jacksonville have a postage Due of 2¢? The answer is that this letter did not originate at Baltimore but at some unidentified origin, possibly along the Atlantic coast, and was brought into Baltimore by a private ship (non-contract) and the captain demanded and was paid his ship fee of 2¢, and this fee had to be collected from the addressee. Thus this was a "SHIP LETTER."

THE 1855 P. L. & R.

The "P. L. & R." (Postal Laws & Regulations), dated July 1, 1855, contained the following - (Regulations, p. 19), "Chapter XI" - "SHIP AND STEAMBOAT LETTERS," quote in part:

"Sec. 108 - The terms SHIP LETTERS xxx embrace the letters xxx carried from one port xxx to another, in any private ship xxx before such letters have been mailed."

"Sec. 110 - Masters xxx of all other steamboats (Note: non-contract), are required by law under a penalty of thirty dollars, to deliver all letters brought by them, xxx to the postmasters."

"Sec. 112 - All ship letters xxx are to be charged with a postage, xxx when forwarded in the mail to other offices with two cents in addition to the ordinary rates of postage." (unquote)

(Note: For the full text of the above sections of the 1855 P.L. & R., see the Ashbrook book - The One Cent 1851-1857 - Volume 2)

THE 90¢ 1861 ON COVER

In the Sixth Caspary Sale, held on November 19-21, 1956, there were four covers with the 90¢ 1861. Lot 186 was a blue F.L. from the well-known "Augustine Heard" (to China) correspondence with superb copies of the 24¢ red lilac and 90¢ blue of 1861, a rate of \$1.14 (2 x 57¢). It was described as a wonderful cover of great rarity, one of the finest "NINETY CENTS" covers known. Probably no exaggeration. This gem sold at an all-time high for a cover with the 90¢ 1861, viz., \$2,700.00. Several days ago I asked the buyer why he was tempted to pay such a price and he stated, quote: "I always wanted a super superb cover with a 90¢ 1861 and this is the finest I have ever seen." (unquote)

This cover was from Boston and was sent down to New York to sail for England on a Cunard ship (Br. Pkt.) on Wednesday, July 30, 1862. It was a bit over ½ oz. in weight, hence the U. S. share of the rate was twice the "U.S. internal" of 2 x 5, giving a credit to Britain of \$1.04, as noted on the face. The rate was "Via Marseilles," meaning, of course, from England across channel to Calais - across France by rail to Marseilles, thence Via Suez to the Far East.

The second cover was Lot #187, with the same stamps and the sailing from

New York on Saturday, Dec. 13, 1862. However, this was despatched by "Amer. Pkt.," hence the U. S. share of the \$1.14 rate was 42¢, viz., 2 x 21¢, so the credit on this cover was in magenta ms. as "72." (42 plus 72 = \$1.14). This beautiful cover realized \$2,000.00.

The third "Heard" cover was Lot #188, with a "Via Marseilles" rate of \$1.06 or 2 x 53¢. Perhaps one will wonder why the single rate on the above two covers was 57¢ (in 1862) and on Lot 188 it was 53¢? The answer is that as of about July 1st, 1863, there was a reduction in the Anglo-French part of the rate of 4¢ (U.S.), reducing the whole 1/2 oz. rate from 57¢ to 53¢. Covers showing these two single rates are well known.

Lot 188 was from New York on Saturday, Sept. 12, 1863 by "Amer. Pkt." As above, the U. S. share of the rate was 2 x 21¢ or 42¢; and the British part 64¢, which appears in magenta pen at right. This cover has a 90¢ 1861, perfs cut at right, a 10¢ 1861, Type II, and a pair of 3¢ '61. It realized \$1,000.00. How could there be a difference of \$1,000.00 between this cover and the preceding lot? Or \$1,700.00 between #188 and #186? Is such a slight difference in condition really worth such premiums?

The fourth cover was Lot #189, and was a cover to France with a rate of \$1.95 from New York on Dec. 26, 1862, paid by two single 90¢ 1861, a 10¢ '61, Type II, and a 5¢ red brown in a beautiful and exceptional color. Surely a cover with two copies of the 90¢ 1861 is quite a rare item, a most interesting and intriguing bit of philatelic Americana.

More than mere condition, I admire the unusual in a 19th U. S. cover - the rare rate, the rare route, the rare markings and the rare destination. One who seeks condition, above all else, misses the joy of the features I have named. Personally I would far prefer to own this cover to France than any of the other three. This is just one man's opinion. In my time I have seen, studied and examined a great many covers to France showing the 15¢ quarter-ounce rate, and its multiples, but never before can I remember as high a rate as this with its payment of \$1.95. I know of no collection that can show a cover to France with a rate by stamps as high as this cover. The sale price was \$1,150.00, proving that even in this period of high prices, there are still bargains to be had.

This cover was to Bordeaux and was 13 times 15¢, - just imagine!! Inasmuch as this letter was despatched by "Amer. Pkt." from New York to England, the U. S. share per single was 3¢ internal plus 6¢ sea - thus 9¢ and 13 x 9 is \$1.17. The French share per single was 3¢ channel (to Calais) plus 3¢ French internal or 6¢ and 13 x 6 is "78." This credit to France of "78" is in magenta pen at left center. In this respect the catalogue description stated, quote: "or 78¢ credit to the United States." This was an error. The New York Foreign Exchange Department did not list credits or debits on mail to this country but rather to foreign countries.

END OF ISSUE NO. 69

DECEMBER 1, 1956

Sixth Series of 1956-1957

One photograph accompanies this issue

NO. 276
